



GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

FREE MONTHLY

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

October 2017

As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest, cold and
heat, summer and winter, day
and night will never cease.

Genesis 8:22

Bible verse of the month

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my House.” “Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “And see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.”

Malachi 3:10 NIV



Page 8



Page 10



Page 14

Our verse this month comes from Stuart Marsh. For more information see page 23

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



Page 28



Page 30

Editorial

We are in the middle of changing seasons. The autumn colours are becoming more evident as we progress through the season. We have quite a varied Good News which manages to cover many different aspects of church life.

Stuart has written about his passion for gardening and what we can think about doing in order to get the best colour in our gardens. Did you guess who was the mystery "Who am I"? Look for the answer.

Paul and Jo have shared details of a very special holiday in the Holy Land with us. We are so lucky here in Lindfield to have all the amenities, whilst so many in the world are suffering with flooding, war and so many other awful things! Let us all pray for those in distress with nothing left of their lives, that they may find the strength and courage to try to start their lives again.

I hope you find our October edition of Good News interesting and possibly thought provoking too. God Bless every one of you,

With Christian love,

Anne

November Edition Copy Date :
Sunday October 15th 2017

EDITOR

Anne Elvin
01444 456840

EDITORIAL TEAM

Martin Hall, Stuart Marsh
Ruth Goodall

PROOF-READING

Carol and Stuart Marsh

SETTING/DESIGN

Dan McQuillin

PRINTING

David Walters

*Contributions should be
emailed to
goodnews@lindfieldurc.org.uk
or hard copy placed in the
"GoodNEWS" pigeon hole at the
rear of the church*

*Please include your contact
details in case of query*

*Produced for
Lindfield United Reformed
Church,
50 High Street, Lindfield, West
Sussex, RH16 2HL
© Lindfield URC 2017*

Dear friends

As I looked out of the window this morning I could see we were definitely into autumn. It was not that the leaves had yellowed and fallen, many are still green and some seemed to fall in mid-August this year, which I hadn't particularly noticed before. No, it was not the leaves, it was a greyiness of mist hanging in the air allowing the far end of the garden to be seen but preventing sight of further trees that are normally visible beyond the church.

I have mixed views on mist. On the one hand I completely hate it, the reduced visibility brings a great hazard when driving, on the other there is the unusual nature of walking through moisture and, provided you are confident in where you are going, the mind is able to similarly journey to a place of mystery. Meanwhile the beard (if you have one, particularly a big one) acts rather like a sponge trying to mop up the cloud, each hair reaching out and grabbing a tiny water molecule.



In the Old Testament clouds are often a sign of the presence of God, it allows the Holy one to be close to humanity without the full glory of His face revealed. He leads the Israelites towards the Promised Land with a cloudy pillar, He surrounds Sinai with a thick cloud which Moses must enter to receive the Ten Commandments (Ex 20), and the place of mercy inside the tent which houses the Ark of the Covenant has a cloud over it (Lev 16). The presence of God in the cloud continues as Solomon brings the Ark to the temple (1Kings 8) and, as we heard during the summer, in how Daniel speaks of the coming of the Son of Man (Dan 7).

However, as we think of the hope of God's presence in the cloud, we must also remember the devastation that other, stormier clouds bring.

Last month, in September, saw report after report on the news of disaster brought by wind and rain. Satellites showed the threat to Caribbean islands where the population were helpless in the face of the hurricanes sweeping across them. Elsewhere Bangladesh and Nepal have seen the worst monsoon conditions in over a decade, and hundreds have died in India. Even the superpower of the USA was shown to be powerless as nature moved in; American states being deluged with rain

and billions of dollars needed to repair infrastructure, homes and get lives back on to a firm footing.

Unusual weather events seem to be increasing. Scientific opinion predominantly attributes this to global warming caused by humanity's greedy use of fossil fuels, rather than wise stewardship of the earth's resources.

When we pray "Thy kingdom come" do we consider what that means concerning our driving of polluting cars, and jetting off on multiple, cheap holidays? Do we realise, I wonder, that rather than seeking the cloud that is the presence of God, we sometimes contribute to the clouds that wreak havoc and destruction?

May God guide us to live in a way that is in greater harmony with the planet, and reduces the risk of future decades of disaster. Let us this autumn enjoy the colours, and wonder at the mystery of God, while seeking to reduce our wastefulness of what we are blessed with.

Your Minister

Keith

Family News

Baptisms

We rejoice with Noah and Faith Morrison and Vi Fruin who have recently committed their lives to our Lord by publicly being Baptised. Also our Secretary, Sue Waller who recommitted her faith in the Lord as she went through the waters of Baptism. We truly rejoice in these events, and ask God to richly bless these dear friends.

Silver Wedding

Warm congratulations to Margaret and Alan Gomme who will be celebrating 25 years of marriage at the end of October.

In Touch

The next In Touch evening will be on the 24th October when we will be showing the film A Street Cat named Bob. A great story with a terrific message. We will need to start the film at 7.30pm sharp and it will finish around 9.15pm. Coffee/ tea will be available upstairs at the start of the meeting.

Do join us if you are able to (bring your own popcorn)

Sue Waller

Grateful Thanks

We have been helped so much during Mies' time in hospital and recovery at home afterwards by all the love you have shown us. So many friends, particularly our House Group, prayed for us, sent cards, messages, flowers and offers of help. We are so grateful!

Thank you.

Mies and Graham Campling

Lunch Fellowship

Lunch Fellowship began again in September with a good number attending and this is to remind you of the October Lunch on October 4th. When, as usual, you are welcome to come along to, please let me know if you did not come last month and sign the book, there is always room for more, I just need to know numbers for catering purposes.

Please also, if you would like to bring someone along with you, just let me know.

Look forward to seeing you

Sue Waller
455047

The Art Group

On **Saturday 4th November** the Art and Craft Group are holding a display and coffee morning in the Church Hall from **10am until 12 Noon**.

Paintings and crafts will be on show, and coffee and cakes will be served in the lounge.

Please come and join us!

Sunday Morning Singers Tunes and Tea

The Joy of the Garden
Saturday 28th October
3-00pm admission free.

We have not rested during the summer and have been busy with three care home concerts and practising for the above event. The title will be illustrated with pictures, many popular readings and songs, several of which you will be welcome to join in.

Refreshments will be provided and there will be no charge for entry yet there will be a retiring collection for The Air Ambulance. We continue to seek new recruits especially as we prepare for the Christmas season.

For more information contact
Peter Swann 01444 450335

Boys' Brigade

Enrolment Service

At the start of each academic year we hold an Enrolment Service where Boys and Staff recommit themselves to the Boys Brigade Company for the new session ahead.

This year this takes place on **Monday 9th October at 6.30pm** in the church. We extend an invitation to you to join us at this service to support the boys and staff. We realise Mondays at 6.30pm may not be the best time for many of you but our normal meeting night is Monday and families are geared to this being BB night. The early start is for our youngest members to be able to attend.

David Walters



Gillian & Adam Earle



You may or may not have seen us around at Lindfield URC, we have been coming along to the evening services for several weeks over the Summer and have really valued the opportunities to worship with you. We have been made to feel most welcome – thank you to everyone for that. We will be around more over the next few months as Adam has been asked to undertake a “light touch” placement prior to being interviewed as a potential candidate for training for ministry in the URC.

People often talk about life as being a journey with all its ups and downs. Adam and I have been journeying together, as husband and wife for twenty-three years, and have known each other for longer.

We met at college in Canterbury. Adam (now 46) has been teaching for 23 years, ten of those as a Headteacher and I have been a teacher, mother to our two wonderful children, homemaker and lead practitioner in a pre-school. We live in a pleasant terraced house in Crowborough and have recently installed a new bathroom. None of this is particularly remarkable but having been so settled for so long and being so comfortable in our work, home and life, some folk might wonder why we are looking to uproot, take a completely different direction and step out into the unknown. To be honest, we are just as surprised at how God has been working with us and moving things forward.

Our time at Lindfield URC is an important step on our journey, we are passing through but we hope to learn from you as well as share with you on the way. Adam has felt the call to ministry for many years (he is perhaps rather embarrassed to admit to twenty-seven years of having this sense of call) and we have been expecting the time to come eventually. Now it seems that the excuses and “reasons” have run out and it’s time to do this thing at last.

Our children, Bethany (19) and Jonah (18) have reached adulthood - relatively unscathed by our parenting skills (or lack of them). Bethany is studying "Game Art" at Northampton University (not far from where my parents live). Jonah is just embarking on his second year of A-Level studies at Bennett Memorial School in Tunbridge Wells. He is studying Maths, Further Maths and Computing. Come next July, he will have finished his school "career" and be ready to move on. If the URC interview and selection process for Adam goes forward then he would be able to start training next September which will mean that any disruption to the children's education will have been avoided as far as possible.

Back in 1996 (September), two years after we were married and a year before our daughter was born, Adam was appointed Organist and Choirmaster of St Denys' Church in Rotherfield.

I joined the church with him and was soon involved in various ways including bell ringing and singing in the choir. Over the years our roles expanded to include puppet ministry (Adam wrote the scripts and I performed as part of the team), we both performed administrative tasks and a wide range of other things. Adam became increasingly involved in planning and leading worship as well as preaching and made several enquiries along the ministry training pathway. Then came a shift in thinking and unexpected change in response to God's call.

Adam stepped down from his post at St Denys' after 18 years and moved to Uckfield URC (Now Cornerstone LEP). He was as surprised as anyone at this. We weren't sure why this was the case but when God called it was irresistible. I have continued to be part of the church at Rotherfield during this transition, serving as PA to the rector. A year ago the circumstances surrounding my day job at a local pre-school changed and I made the decision to move on. Although this was a tough choice to make it has given me the time and space to reflect and look ahead.

Over the last two years God's plan has become increasingly evident and Adam's sense of call has grown stronger. In the last year, and particularly in the last few months, we have grown together and are more prepared to serve God in whatever way he chooses.

At the moment the most likely path is that Adam will proceed to train as a URC minister but, having seen God working in unexpected ways over the last couple of years, we are having to learn to trust Him more and go wherever He leads. There will be change, probably moving home, Adam embarking on a new phase of training and learning and the family having to adapt and take on new things. There is a great deal to do and many decisions to make but these are exciting times and we firmly believe that God has it all in hand.

Gillian Earle

You need to plant seeds

From this...



Harvest festival is a time to thank God for the many ways in which he provides for our needs throughout the year although, of course, we cannot just leave it to Him, we have to put in some work too! This work starts with planting the seeds and, as all gardeners know, the return on your investment can be quite staggering. Those of you who grow tomatoes will have seen first-hand how, with a bit of loving care, one seed can give you hundreds of the most delicious tomatoes.

Jesus does not mention tomato seeds in the Bible, but instead he uses the mustard seed to illustrate the astonishing rate of growth that we can see in nature. In Jesus' day the mustard seed was the smallest known by Palestinian farmers and gardeners, yet under favourable conditions the plant could reach some ten feet in height.

Jesus used the seed as an example of how the Kingdom of Heaven will grow and spread throughout the world (Matthew 13 verses 31-32).

The mustard seed is used as a symbol by several Christian organisations across the world. For example, the mustard tree on the opposite page comes from the website of Mustard Tree Ministries based in Chattanooga, USA, whose mission is to eradicate poverty and hunger, one life, one community at a time. Closer to home, The Mustard Tree Cafe is a charitable project of Hurworth Methodist Church in Darlington. As it says on their website: "You might think that buying a coffee and a cake, or a tea and a sandwich is a small thing. But as part of The Mustard Tree Project, you are supporting something much bigger."

to reap a harvest!

To this...



Together we can become a community that cares for one another and where everyone can find a home, a place of welcome and peace, and the resources for wellbeing of body, mind and soul”.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has also used the mustard seed as the symbol for his appeal to raise funds to launch and support the Just Finance Foundation, to alleviate poverty in the UK. On their website are many ideas for special fundraising activities for the Harvest season.

The Church of England’s Harvest Prayers of Intercession begin: “Let us pray to God, the Lord of the harvest, that He will bring to fruition all that He desires for His creation. Lord of creation, we see that the fields are ripe for harvesting: we pray for your Church, that it may be ready to gather fruit for eternal life. Lord of the harvest, in your mercy hear us”.

As Jesus Himself said to his disciples: “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the Harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.” (Matthew 9 verses 37-38).

As we do what we can to help with the harvesting, remember that the harvest starts with a seed – that might just be a smile, a word of encouragement, a helping hand to friends and neighbours. A small start perhaps, but look what a tiny mustard seed can grow into!

Martin Hall



Pilgrimage to the Holyland

Living the Bible

Earlier this year Jo and I had a very memorable visit to the Holyland with a group of fellow Christians from around the UK led by Cannon Andrew Cornes, which included a group from All Saints, Lindfield. Andrew proved to be a well-informed, energetic and enthusiastic leader who had spent some of his childhood in Israel. He kept us occupied all day at a hectic pace, travelling out to many places each day from our two bases near Lake Galilee and in Jerusalem, as well as providing talks and discussion groups in the evenings.

This trip was entitled 'Living the Bible' – a Christian journey of re-living the stories in the Bible from Dan to Beth Sheba (North to South of Israel), so enlivening our faith and enhancing our knowledge. This involved visiting many important Old Testament sites and scenes of New Testament events, where we enacted Biblical passages and events in Jesus' life.

During these daily visits we used a 'Whisper' radio system so we could hear Andrew speak. His initial opening phrase was 'Am I on?'. This always amused us, but it made us think, 'Are we on?' ourselves, tuned into listening and speaking to God.

For some, acting can be a daunting prospect but having taken a step out of our 'comfort zone', and with a small

amount of time to prepare, the results were rewarding and gave us a greater understanding of those passages that were familiar to us, they became more real and we could see them from a new perspective. So now when we read or hear a Bible passage many memories of the places and sites we saw bring the reading to life, developing our understanding and faith in Jesus, our Saviour. We also learned about the ancient history of the area up to the present day as well as the architecture of the Old and New Testament sites.

We had the opportunity to meet and hear from local Jewish and Palestinian Christians, as well as a Muslim, speaking on their life in Israel today and the challenges this presents.

Anyone who has been to the Holyland will have their own special memories of what they did and saw. For me, one special time was walking on part of the ancient road to Jericho along a winding dusty path through a deep river wadi on a very hot day, much the same as Jesus would have done many times on his travels, with virtually no shade to rest in and seeing Jericho approaching in the hazy distance. We did see some donkeys being ridden along this path, which was a good reminder of how people used to travel all those years ago and still do.

Another memory was of the peace and tranquillity around the Sea of Galilee, particularly at Capernaum, where Jesus chose His first followers, encouraging them and questioning their commitment. Another special time was taking a night trip in a fishing boat to the middle of the lake where we stopped several times to listen to the lapping of the water against the boat as we sang hymns and prayed, with the engine and lights switched off, of course. At times the boat rocked from side to side with the waves which made the boat trip very atmospheric.

So to give you a flavour of some of the sites and places we visited it seemed appropriate to show you some photos together with some Bible references we were given by our group leader, which you also may find helpful.

Paul Bloxham



Re-enactment of Jesus feeding his disciples by the Sea of Galilee at Capernaum – Mark 1 v14-35



Barluzzi Church on Mount Tabor, traditional site of Jesus' transfiguration – Luke 9 v28-36



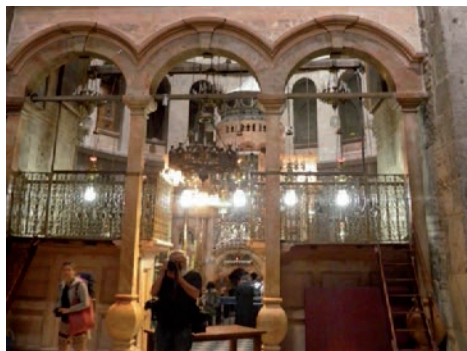
Church of the Ascension in Jerusalem – Act 1 v3-11



Walking and remembering in the Garden of Gethsemane - Matthew 26 v36-46



Walk of Witness on Palm Sunday towards the Old City from the Mount of Olives – Luke 19 v28-44



Inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre - John 19 v17-42 + 20 v1-10



Walking on the old road to Jericho (Jericho in the distance) Joshua 24 v1-29



View of the Dome of the Rock – Mark 13 v1-37



View over Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives with the Jewish gravestones in the foreground facing the Temple Mount.

Release International



It is our great privilege to welcome back Kenneth Harrod from Release International on 15th October.

Release International serves Christians in 30 countries around the world by supporting pastors and Christian prisoners and their families; supplying Christian literature and bibles; and working for justice. Andrew will provide a short presentation during the morning service, followed by a hunger lunch provided by the missions team.

Do please come and hear how faith exceeds fear and know the rasping reality of how our relationship with Christ unfolds in the darkest of places. If you truly want to understand and align your life with the cost of the cross and Christ's triumph over the grave and an empty tomb you have to engage with the suffering church. Through Release International you may write to, or on behalf of prisoners of faith, or receive prayer points for them. You can receive email prayer alerts and prisoner profiles, or view country profiles. You may receive the Release International magazine published every two months.

Whatever you do please take time to consider our persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ. Please do come and hear Andrew on 15th October.

Helen Betrane will accompany Andrew. Helen is a gospel singer who spent two years in detention in Mai Serwa army camp in Eritrea, first in a metal shipping container and later in an underground cell. She was tortured repeatedly to make her deny her faith: she refused.

This is an amazing opportunity to ask questions and try to walk in the shoes of a living Christian martyr. Please do come along and be blessed by the experience of irrefutable faith under fire.

May the Lord bless you to 'regard prisoners as if you were in prison with them. Look on victims of abuse as if what happened to them had happened to you (Heb13 v3 The Message) in order that Christ's kingdom will be loved and extended as we engage with His suffering children around the world.

God Bless you indeed.

Harry McCleery

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. <small>Venue rotates between the three churches</small>

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 Thursday, Alternate Months)
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 Sunday	Harvest	Sunday	21st	8:45am	Three Churches
	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison	Saturday		Prayer Meeting, URC
2nd Monday	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison	22nd Sunday	10:00am	Communion Rev Keith Morrison
		House Group Week		6:30pm	Something Different Rev Mike Gardiner
4th Wednesday	12:30pm	Lunch Fellowship	24th Tuesday	(See page 6)	In Touch Film
7th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	25th Wednesday	2:30pm 7:45pm	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
8th Sunday	10:00am	Family Service Rev Keith Morrison	26th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
	6:30pm	Communion Rev Keith Morrison	28th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
14th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	29th Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison
15th Sunday	10:00am	Mission Sunday Followed by Hunger Lunch		6:30pm	Joint Service Evan Free Church
	6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison			
16th Monday		House Group Week			

YOUTH



Hello!

We have reached October, and the autumn months settle in!

As I write this, the youth groups have not yet started back; but the first Boys' Brigade begins in just a couple of hours! I hope by the time you read this, I can say that the numbers in the groups are all very good!

On Wednesday 4th October, there will be a Safeguarding Training evening. The evening is open for everyone, but is specifically for those who work with children or vulnerable adults within the Church.

The evening will run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the lounge of the church.

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact me!

We also have another all-age games evening on the way! These are a great opportunity to come and have fun no matter what age you are! Everyone is welcome, and you're encouraged to bring some friends along!

All Age Games Night!

Who: Everyone!

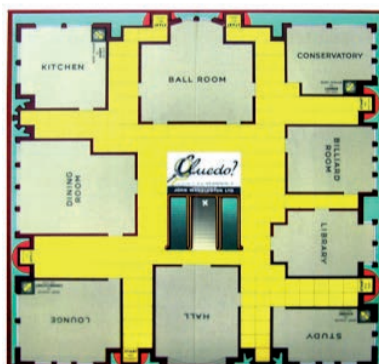
Where: Lindfield United Reformed Church

When: Saturday 28th 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!



The games evening will be on Saturday 28th October running from 5.30pm to 8.30pm. You're welcome to come for the whole time, or just pop in for a bit!

This month we also have our Synod Together meeting at Goring URC in Worthing! During which, the Southern Synod Youth Executive are running a youth event called 'Re-Unite!' The event runs from 10am to 4.30pm and is for anyone in secondary school up to age 25. It may even include a trip to the local bowling alley!

Once again, for more information, come and talk to me; or you can find the flyer on the blue youth board next to the coat hooks opposite the lounge.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the above events!

Danny

PAGES

Progression

As we enter the new academic year, we reach the time of progression within Lighthouse. As the children and young people get older, they make their way through the groups, until they reach the age of 18, when they get too old to disappear anymore!

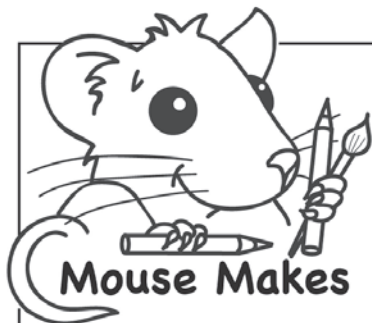
Our Sunday morning children and youth activities are called Lighthouse after Matthew 5 vs 14 and 15 where Jesus calls us to be a light to the world and that is our vision for both the teachers and the children that are part of Lighthouse, 'to give light to everyone' and share the amazing love and power of God.

Each year, we begin our session committing the Lighthouse teachers and young people to God, and praying God's blessing over them for the year ahead.

In the photo you can see the Lighthouse teachers promising to teach the children with the strength God gives us.

Danny Goodall





Mouse Makes

Ezekiel the prophet had a special dream from God. In his dream he stood in the middle of a valley full of a great many bones. God made him walk around them, then God said; “Son of man, can these bones live?” Ezekiel replied; “Sovereign Lord, you know.” God told Ezekiel to prophesy over the bones, to tell them; “Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord, I am about to put breath into you and you will live. I will put tendons on you and muscles over you and cover you with skin,

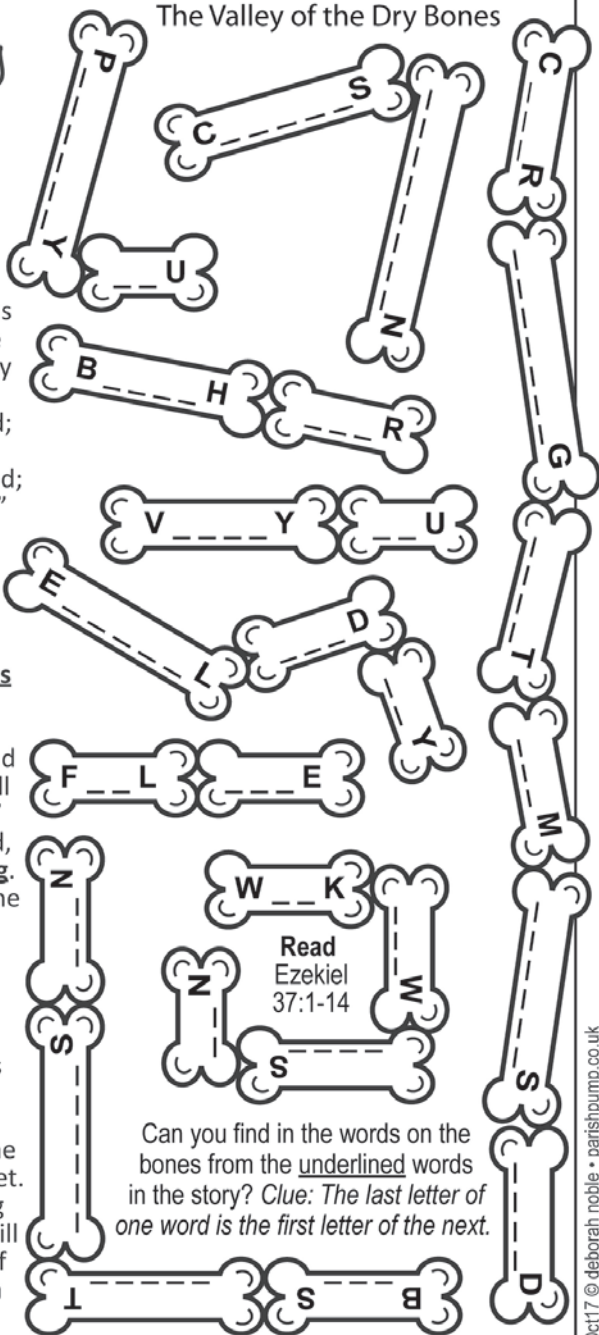
I will put breath in you and you will live. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”

So Ezekiel did as God had said, he heard the sound of rattling. The bones came together bone to bone, then tendons and muscles and skin appeared on them. God told Ezekiel to say to the breath; “Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe on these corpses so that they may live.”

Ezekiel spoke what God had told him and the corpses came alive and stood on their feet.

God explained the meaning of the dream and said; “I will put my Spirit in the people of Israel and they will know I am the Lord and they will live.”

The Valley of the Dry Bones



Read
Ezekiel
37:1-14

Can you find in the words on the bones from the underlined words in the story? *Clue: The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next.*

Greenbelt Festival

Greenbelt is a Christian arts, faith and justice festival attended by around 20,000 people and run largely by volunteers. It is situated in the beautiful parkland of Broughton House near Kettering. We have been attending each August Bank holiday weekend for seven years. With 17 different venues running events simultaneously, there is something for everyone.

The United Reformed Church is one of Greenbelt's sponsors and this year they ran a 'knitted food' treasure hunt for children and discussion groups on the theme 'more than welcome'.

Greenbelt has received awards for its accessibility, sustainability and inclusivity. This year there has been a massive investment in the youth, particularly the 18-25 age range.

Below we give a taster of the diversity of activities we experienced.

Music - We listened to a wide variety of musicians: folk legend Newton Faulkner, blues rock Joanne Shaw Taylor, dark techno GRRRL and the Great Sacred Classical music choir of St Martin in the Fields. Mike enjoyed singing in the Greenbelt choir.



Bible Verse

Discussion - There are many panel and group discussions. Jacquie attended a great seminar about death, ethics and the church, one on body image run by Rev Kate Botley of Gogglebox and Celebrity Masterchef fame, and another on Israel and Palestine - how did we get here? Mike's favourite discussion was about the link between zombies and spirituality.

Worship - There is a whole festival communion. This year it was led by people with severe disabilities, including a live link talk from someone bed bound with ME and someone with motor neurone disease talking through computer aided technology. A very large loaf was needed for the thousands attending. We also experienced a Goth Eucharist, an Outerspace Eucharist and Taize worship. Beer and hymns is always a must.

Art/dance/drama - Christian Aid had a wonderful 'artist in residence' painting scenes depicting the changes to the lives in the Philippines following hurricane devastation. We resisted joining in the belly dancing lessons - we thought Greenbelt, whilst progressive, wasn't ready for that yet!

If you are interested to hear more please speak to **Jacquie or Mike Odell**.

“*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my House. "Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "And see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.*”

Malachi 3 v.10.

Autumn and Harvest-time are my favourite times of the year and this reading speaks to me about God's faithfulness to us and His bounteous provision each year.

Stuart Marsh

Safeguarding Training!

Lindfield United Reformed Church will be holding a safeguarding training evening on Wednesday 4th October.

The evening is open for everyone, but is specifically for those who work with children or vulnerable adults within the Church. The evening will run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the lounge of the church.

If you do work with children or the elderly within the church, please make this evening a priority.

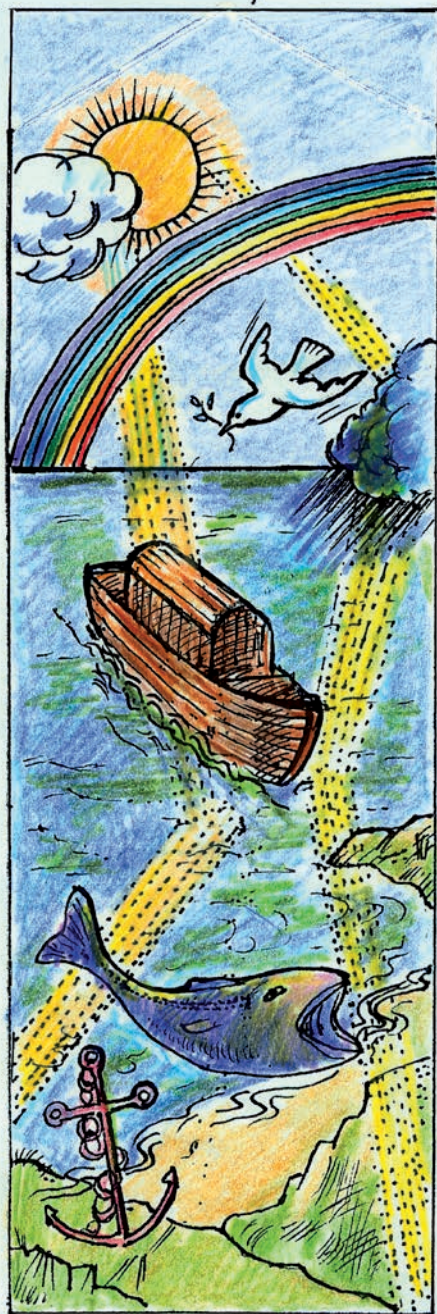
If you plan to come please email Danny Goodall: dgoodall@lindfieldurc.org.uk

Hope

Hope is another foundation block of Christianity. The two designs symbolise Old and New Testament illustrations of hope. Noah's trust in the future was rewarded with The Return of the Dove to the Ark. The Old Testament design also includes Jonah's Great Fish. Christ considered Jonah's "resurrection" as a sign of great significance.

The New Testament design for Hope tries to symbolise the cosmic nature of Christ's Crucifixion and subsequent Resurrection with the empty tomb. The Bread and Wine are also featured in this design. Followers of Christ use these elements when they participate in Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper or Eucharist. Not only to follow scripture but to confirm Faith and Hope for the future now and always.

Brian Tuppen



HOPE PANEL (OT)

e/



HOPE PANEL (NT)

Knitvity

Thank you to everyone who has knitted, or is in the process of knitting, a character/s for the Knitvity scenes. We needed 60 characters knitted and are currently about half way towards the target.

I am putting a list of the characters still required on the notice board so that, if you feel able to help, you can see which characters need knitting.

Spare wool is in a basket under the stairs by the vestry but please ask if there is a specific colour you wish me to buy. If anyone has any spare wool in animal or shepherd colours please place it in the basket.

Thank you

Jacquie Odell



Autumn Colour

In your garden

If you are worried about the colour being drained out of your garden this month, here are some seasonal suggestions to brighten things up.

Firstly, as summer bedding plants are now over, you could plant winter hardy annuals such as hardy cyclamen, pansies and violas, polyanthus and primroses. There is a new Autumn flowering wallflower as well as bulbs of all sorts especially dwarf daffodils such as the 6in tall Tete-a-Tete. You might also like to go for "Silver Leaf" Cineraria Maritima which adds non-flowering colour to beds and containers.

Once you have laid the foundations with low-growing annuals, you could include some medium height plants such as Asters, (Michaelmas Daisies), Chrysanthemums, Heleniums (in a variety of colours including brown which is an unusual colour in the garden), Japanese Anemonies and Schizostylis.



Heleniums

Going higher up the height scale are shrubs which have lovely autumn leaf colours such as many varieties of Japanese Acers or Maples, Amelanchiers (Snowy Mespilus), Hawthorn, Hamamelis (Witch Hazel) and many more.



Japanese Acers

Berries are nature's jewels which come in an array of different colours -good examples include Skimmia, Cotoneaster, Pyracantha and Pernettya (or Gaultheria).

Finally, don't forget your hanging baskets need planting up with pansies and trailing ivies etc.

Happy Autumn!

Stuart Marsh

Mission Update

October will be a busy month for mission:



The 8th to 14th October is Prisons Week and the daily prayers for this are incorporated in the Church's October Prayer Calendar. More information is available on the Missions Board and at www.prisonsworld.org



On Sunday 15th October Kenneth Harrod from Release International will visit us for the day. He will bring with him Helen Berhane, a gospel singer who was held in detention in Eritrea, in dreadful conditions, for her faith. She refused to deny her faith, in spite of repeated torture. They will participate in the morning service and then give us more news of persecuted Christians around the world between coffee and the Hunger Lunch which will follow. (See

Harry McCleery's article)

On Thursday 26th October, at 8pm, the Church prayer meeting will be dedicated to praying for persecuted Christians world-wide with introductions, by the Missions Group, to the situation in different countries including the work of Christian Missions.



During September and October we are once again supporting Crawley Prison Fellowship (PF) with our Mission Giving. Nigel and Valerie Maynard, leaders of the Group, answered questions about the work of the Group during the Sunday Morning Service on 17th September. More information is available at the Mission display area. (If you would like to give towards this work please use the special mission-giving envelopes and place your gift in the offertory at any of the Sunday services. Please complete a Gift Aid slip if appropriate. Cheques should be made payable to Lindfield URC.

Missions Group

Halloween

Halloween has historically evolved to become an evening of spiritual conflict between darkness and light – good and evil. I have a friend who lives up a dark alleyway. During the year he will accumulate dolls that you can record screaming voices on from charity shops and mutilate, paint and maim them in order to produce the greatest ghoulish effects to his celebrant party goers.

He celebrates Halloween as a Christian would celebrate Christmas. He recently told me that although he doesn't believe in God he loves it when everyone is singing in church like a party and he would go every week if it was like that.

So let's keep on singing!



I invited him to become an online closet Christian by listening to Andy Hickford at Maybridge Community Church in Worthing. Problem is there's no singing! In contrast to my friend's behaviour, I would encourage you to remember in prayer on Halloween (31st Oct) and All Saints day (1st Nov) this year Christian martyrs and saints who have failed to deny Christ to the point of death.

We can pray for our sisters in Christ who are being raped and forced into marriages in Pakistan. Pray for Christian pastors imprisoned in China. If you need ideas for prayer have a look at releaseinternational.org or barnabasfund.org websites

If you look at the Barnabas Fund website you will see an article about Australian children being banned from talking about Jesus in the playground. We have a backdrop of children in the UK being taught about same sex relationships aged five. As a pharmacist, the General Pharmaceutical Committee recently ran a survey requesting views on religion, personal values, and beliefs. Despite a massive response, myself included, a pharmacist cannot signpost a patient to another pharmacy over matters of conscience any more. Effectively a Christian or Muslim, for that matter, is unable to practise in community pharmacy if you chose to adhere strictly

to your conscience or religious beliefs. The day has come when you should chose a career as a Christian, that is unlikely to fall short of government legislation, now or in the future.

In the darkest days the light shines brightest. I find that in a society that has been brought up without any sort of Christian belief system - positive or negative – I haven't found any offence at me wearing a Christian cross at work. I have had a Muslim colleague look me straight in the eye and say, 'I'd love to know what you believe.' I have had an Egyptian Coptic Christian tell me the difference between my protestant Christian beliefs and his. We both agreed that I was right!

I believe that we are living in a time of unprecedented opportunity. The fields are white unto harvest. We need to just take a little leap of faith. I had a conversation with someone recently and we discussed our fears for the future of our children in a world without hope.

Shortly after my friend was arrested for attempted murder. My greatest regret was that I didn't have the courage to share the life saving hope of having a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. I've prayed for my friend every day that he has been in prison. I pray that he won't lose hope. I pray that one day I'll make up

for my lost opportunity.

One thing remains, despite the conflicts to our faith and Satan's best advances, we are called as Christians to look into the heart of our fellow man and implant the heart and mind of Christ.

I tell you the truth there's no greater gift than the gift of a child, but nothing compares to when your child becomes 'born again' into eternal life in Jesus Christ. You can't ever have a bad day in your life again!

God Bless you as you seek to serve and love Jesus in the building of His glorious kingdom. Do please pray at Halloween for all the saints who are alive, and remember the life in death of those who have fallen asleep in Jesus Christ. May your heart's be filled with joy to serve in the light of the living God this Halloween and always.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Matthew 5 v16

Yours in Christ,

Harry McCleery

Who am I?

Revealed



Congratulations to those of you who worked out that September's "Who am I?" was Mike Odell. Mike and his wife Jacquie have been members of the Lindfield URC congregation for some 3 years. In December Mike joined the worship group and appears regularly on Sunday morning as a singer. He also makes a regular appearance at the hatch serving our tea and coffee and enjoys helping with the Messy Church events.

Mike is a learning and development consultant specialising in insurance. Mike has always worked in the insurance industry spending most of his career as a loss adjuster.

Mike had a Church of England upbringing attending St Mary's in Addington near Croydon. At a young age he became a choir boy, wearing the full regalia, and particularly looked forward to singing for weddings when additional money could be earned.

At the age of 10, Mike moved with his family to Horsham where he joined the choir at St Mary's Horsham. He recalls having a trial as a bell ringer at the age of 12, however despite the encouragement of the fellow bell ringers the thought of disappearing up into the bell tower proved too traumatic!

Mike and Jacquie met and married in Horsham. They took the opportunity to move to Preston in Lancashire where they enjoyed many happy years and become members of Fulwood Methodist Church. As children came along they returned to Haywards Heath to be near family and they and their four children joined the Methodist Church.

Mike enjoys singing being a member of the local "In Choir" group, gardening, walking the family dog and he can also be seen early in the morning "swimming" in the slow lane at the Dolphin Leisure centre.

Martin Hall

Phonebook

Keith Morrison (Minister)

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

Danny Goodall (Youth Pastor)

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

Church Secretary

Sue 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

1st	Harvest Flowers	Iris Bingham
8th	Harvest Flowers	Heather Swann
15th	Jessie Green	Fo Tingley
22nd	Heather Swann	Sue Tester
29th	Winifred Scopes	Janet Sanderson

November

5th	Betty Billins	Meta Orchin
12th	Remembrance Sunday	Lesley Sparks
19th	Sue Waller	Jo Bloxham
26th	Carol Walters	Iris Bingham

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 4th October

- 8.00pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall
Talk : History, Development and Management of Weir Wood
Local Nature Reserve - Peter Erridge

Wednesday 11th October

- 12.00 noon Tiger Arts - Lunch in The Tiger
1.00pm Concert in All Saints Church : Roedean School for Girls
8.00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Talk : The Gardens of Windsor Great Park - Harvey Stephens

Saturday 14th October

- 10.00am Lindfield Horticultural Society in Jubilee Room KEH
Coffee Morning and Plant Sale
7.30pm Tiger Arts in All Saints Church
Concert by Rhos Welsh Male Voice Choir
Admission by ticket at the door

Thursday 19th October

- 7.30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall
'Victoria and Abdul' PG - starring Dame Judi Dench
Tickets available from Tufnells from 28th September

