


GoodNEWS **MAGAZINE**

From Lindfield United Reformed Church

FREE MONTHLY

October 2018



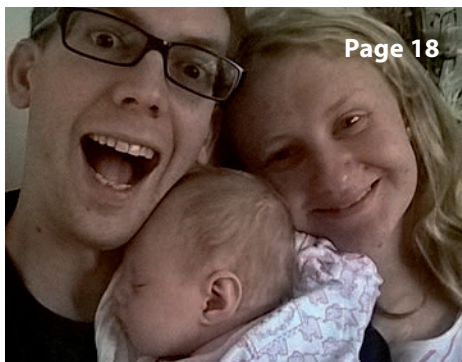
**I can do
everything
through Christ
who gives me
strength**

Philippians 4:13

Bible verse of the month

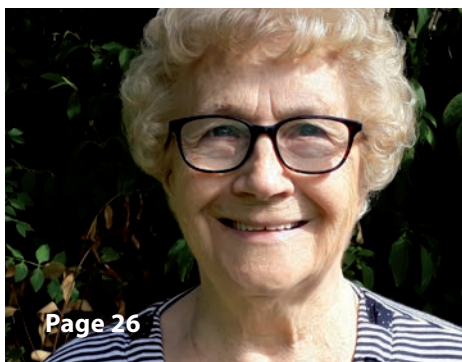
“I can do
everything through
Christ who gives me
strength,”

Philippians 4:13 NIV



If you have a verse or article
you would like to share in
GoodNEWS email:

goodnews@lindfielddurc.org.uk



Editorial

We have just had a very special Operation Mobilisation Weekend, do read about this. In the afternoon session, we were all given a challenge about 'Sharing One's Faith'. In the evening again we were able to share in the family-friendly, two course supper, and the mission work experienced by young people. Great Fellowship was shared.

We are back to normal with all the groups meeting again, so do see what is going on and possibly think of joining in something. Do not be lonely, there is always a big welcome waiting for you.

We have news on Val and Adrian Cookney, do read what is happening to them. Danny is as busy as ever, looking after our young people, see how we should try to focus this Halloween on the 'light of the world'. Find where 'The River of Poppies' is to be found. What about the 'Tea at the Ritz' how special could that be! Do you know about 'The Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child' see and read, what joy can be given at such a special time.

We hope you can find things of interest and use our meetings to share fellowship and enjoyment in our Church.

With every blessing to you all, from your Good News Team,

God Bless,

Anne

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Dear friends

The other day, having taken my daughter to school, I returned to Lindfield, parking the car in Chaloner Road. I got out, locked it and promptly got hit in the chest. This was not by a local hoodlum, or any person, but by a small object travelling at speed. A split second before there had been a “ding” which was probably a falling acorn impacting on the adjacent car’s bonnet, and flying back into the air. I guess this projectile must have been the culprit. Looking down, the individual item was unidentifiable, the parking area was littered by many such identical objects.

It was this time last year that the front garden of Ryecroft was full of acorns, and you may remember I wrote that as soon as I had scooped some up the ground was covered again. Apparently 2017 was an exceptional year for their production, and on my walks this summer I have occasionally seen something I hadn’t previously noticed, near the base of oaks, self-planted saplings. These miniature oaks were just a few inches tall, with a thin stem rather than a thick trunk, but they showed the familiar wavy edged leaf. They are a sign that from last year’s bounteous crop, God has prepared a way for a new generation of the great strong tree to grow.

However, at the same time as I delight in seeing the saplings, my thoughts might wander to the hundreds, if not thousands, of seeds produced by a tree and the small handful that have germinated. This could easily lead one to become disheartened, but in a wood those acorns that don’t flourish might be providing food for squirrels, or over a period of time rotting down giving nutrients into the soil. What might seem failure on behalf of the acorn, might actually be part of the plan God has for the woodland.

Are we people who dwell on what we perceive as wrong rather than consider what we have been blessed with? This is seen in the doughnut/hole issue. Given a sugary ring doughnut we might delight in the sweet treat before us, or we might think “what happened to the hole? I want the whole doughnut, preferably with jam squirted into it!” If we focus our life on the absence of the middle we will miss out on the blessing we have already received.

Too often we measure things by what we expect the outcome to be. If the action, or result, doesn’t match our plan then something wrong has happened, and someone is to blame; but is that a correct deduction?

A bigger picture is often very hard to see, we don't see the wood for the trees, indeed the full picture is only seen by God.

This October, as leaves change colour, as acorns and conkers fall to the ground, let us not consider the chillier darker nights that are coming but delight in what we may see of God's creation. Let us pray for the wonders that can germinate from small seeds, and find gladness in the blessings we do have rather than the things we might incorrectly consider to be a failing.

May we have a heart of faith that rejoices, giving thanks to God's generosity, a heart that longs to share His good news with others.

With every blessing,
your minister,

Keith

Family News

Lunch & Service

As usual our October Lunch will be on the 1st Wednesday of the month ie the 3rd October and we look forward to welcoming you all. As usual there will be a home cooked two course lunch with coffee/tea to follow at a cost of £4.

Please do phone me on 01444 455047 if you haven't been before and would like to give us a try, we would be delighted to see you.

At 11.30am on that day there will also be Wednesday Worship – a short service in the church to which everyone is welcome.

(Lunching or not !)

We look forward to seeing you

Sue Waller

The Art Group

The Art Group are holding a coffee morning on Saturday 6th October. from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. This will be held in the lounge of Lindfield United Reformed Church.

A craft stall and paintings will be on show.

Family News

New beginnings and New Challenges

September can be a time of new beginnings for young and not so young alike. New home, new school, change of circumstances in the home or work place. Where having a new home or changing schools are usually events to get us excited, unexpected events, though, can take us by surprise and be much harder to come to terms with.

Some folk within our Church family are facing serious health issues, and find themselves unable to do things they once enjoyed.

So, if you know anyone who is struggling to come to terms with distressing changes, please pray for them. To be upheld in prayer and to know the love and support of friends, makes a huge difference.

Trust me, I know!

Fo Tingley

Do you remember the Pilgrimages?

Next summer it will be 5 years since the last Pilgrimage we led together and 25 years since our first Pilgrimage in July 1994.

So we thought it would be good to have a reunion. The date would be 16th June 2019 and we would meet at Hassocks URC for an afternoon of worship, remembrance and, of course, tea!

If you would be interested in joining in with such an afternoon please let Brenda (01273 594012) know as soon as possible. If there is enough interest we will go ahead with the arrangements.

Darryl and Brenda

The Fellowship

The next meeting of 'The Fellowship' will be held on Wednesday 24th October at 2.30pm. Our speaker will be Pastor Mervyn Weeks from The Evangelical Free Church. Mervyn will tell us of his Christian Ministry on the streets of Brighton, before he became Pastor of the Church in Lindfield.

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

Pat Phillips

Family News

A River of Poppies

There will be a 'River of Poppies' display on Muster Green in Haywards Heath, 10,000 of them!

The date is not given yet but it will be in the month of October until Remembrance Day.

This is a community project, whereby Scouts, Girl Guides, care and residential homes together with other groups and clubs all working together, for this wonderful labour of love and tribute. All in memory of our fallen heroes of 'The Great War' 100 years ago and all wars.

Jean Baxter

In Touch

Having not met during August we have no meeting to report but we are looking forward to our Film night on October 23rd and the Christmas craft evening on 27th November. Details of these meetings will be available nearer the time. As usual we meet in the lounge at 7.30 and everyone is very welcome to join us. Remember we have started to collect food for Haywards Heath food bank and we also have a book swap.

If anyone has any ideas for us to include in next year's programme please let us know.

Janet Wade

September Wedding

Louise Dunford and Thomas Henton were married at the Lindfield URC on 1st September, followed by a reception at Brookfield Barn in Lower Beeding.

Louise attended the Junior Church as a youngster and was delighted to be able to get married in the Church.

Many thanks to everyone involved who helped make the Wedding Service extra special.

Sue Dunford



If you want to get up you must get down

That statement may sound a little contradictory or even just plain daft, so let me try and explain it, or put it in a different way. If you want to get up to that paradise of eternity that we know as heaven, then you must start by getting down on your knees in prayer and in repentance seek forgiveness, as you ask the risen Christ to take control of your life.

I've just started reading a book about the wonderful life and ministry of the late Billy Graham, which is written by his son, Franklin Graham. When Billy came to Christ as a young man, he said, "For the first time in my life I realised that I was a sinner, that my soul was bound for hell and that I needed a Saviour". But, when he spoke about his eventual passing, he said, "This is the reason for my hope. Heaven is glorious. Heaven is perfect. Heaven is joyous, and heaven is active; but can we know – really know – that it is also certain?..... The Bible says yes!"

The worldly view of achieving such success and joy is to work hard, and scripture teaches that, as Christians, each of us has much work to do. Indeed, as James says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). However, the Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians :

“For it is by grace you have been saved through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.”
Ephesians 2: 8-9

So, the work that we are called to do is actually a bi-product of our salvation through the grace of God.

A few weeks ago, I introduced three characters to the church; Rev. Preach-Alot, Mrs. Does-Alot and Mr. There-Alot. Each one of these fictitious characters worked tirelessly in church life, thereby trying to win the race to the paradise of eternity. However, each one was flawed and on their own had no chance of success. Similarly, none of us is perfect and no matter what we do, whether within or outside the church, we cannot gain salvation through our own endeavours. There is only one way to be sure and that's through faith in Christ, who through the wonder of the cross and glory of the resurrection affords us salvation as a love gift of grace.

The American Evangelical Church Pastor Rick Warren wrote, "Through Christ our past is forgiven, our present is given meaning and our future is secured."

Now isn't that worth getting down on your knees for.

Simon Franklin

Billy and Ruth

At the end of a cross-shaped brick walkway Mike and I stood at the simple graves of Billy Graham and Ruth Bell Graham. Gentle music and the fragrance of flowers moved our hearts to tears. Billy and Ruth were now safely home with their Lord whom they had loved and served all their lives. They were together.

Let me explain. We were in the States to celebrate the wedding of our grandson Michael and his fiancée Victoria. What a glorious occasion that had proved to be. However, whilst we were in North Carolina we visited the Billy Graham Library, a large complex of gardens and galleries. We had approached this visit with interest but nothing much else. We were unprepared for that tremendous moment when we were bowled over by the presence of God in this beautiful place. This place is not all about Billy but about the Lord Jesus Christ whom Billy served devotedly all of his life. Billy's headstone is inscribed with the simple words that he had chosen, 'A preacher of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Billy had shared God's love and saving power with kings, queens, soldiers, prisoners, students, ordinary men and women from every walk of life.

He had preached to hundreds of millions of people in more than 185 countries. He said, 'My one purpose in life is to help people find a personal relationship with God, which I believe comes through knowing Jesus Christ.'

At the wedding we were delighted to meet with one of Billy's granddaughters. Jeshura said, 'Grandad was the same at the kitchen table as you saw him, a simple kind man devoted to his God.'

Jean and Mike Gardiner



Update from up North

Putting finger to iPad screen to write something for the LURC magazine does feel a little surreal! We have been living up North for nearly 2 years now and in our own home for 18 months, time really does seem to fly! Although it has taken time to settle and I think that process is ongoing, not least in dealing with long, dark, cold winters, there has never been a moment when we have questioned God's call and timing for our move here.

We are enjoying our home and being able to share it with others, be that church, family or friends.

However it was the garden that sold the house to us and we are having a grand time putting our stamp on it. That does mean that we are doing a great deal of digging to make a vegetable garden and new borders. Now digging in this garden is with a pick axe and mattock as we dig out York stone - tonnes of small pieces but also enough to build several new dry stone walls. We have even dug out stone steps which we are going to use in the garden! So the garden is a work in progress but it has been productive this year with our first crop of veg!

Living on a small small road it has been easier to get to know neighbours - they are all delightful people and we are beginning to spend time together sharing ideas mainly about gardens but also they are a fount of knowledge about the area.

The decision to live where we now live was made once we had found a church. Hope Church is a small independent community church in the heart of a large private and council housing estate. It started through a weekly Explorer group meeting each week in the local school and then a church developed from that work. We have about 30 or so members and meet in a community centre on Sundays and in each other's homes in the week. Throughout the year we host different events to which we invite families and friends from the community. The main event is the Family Fun Day, when we take over the school field; we put up games and bouncy castles organise races etc and have a BBQ all for free. The past couple of years nearly 400 people have come.

A brief up date on family news. Andy and Katlin's second baby is due imminently. So as I write I am half expecting a phone call to go down to Sheffield to look after our grandson whilst his baby sibling is being born!

I have had the immense privilege to look after Alistair two days a week this past year - what a joy. We have had such fun playing, going for walks, digging (of course), and both of us learning new skills!

Tea and Sympathy

Andy is enjoying his work as a Teaching Assistant in a school for children with significant physical and learning disabilities. It is not a easy job but he is finding it very rewarding. Katlin is now on maternity leave from her job at the University.

Katie and Matt are well into their second year in Iraq with Medair. It is proving a less than straight forward year with many challenges and unexpected obstacles to work round. They are returning to the UK in May as Kate is in the process of applying to train to specialise in Psychiatry. Once she knows where she will be doing this Matt will then apply for Civil Engineering jobs. It will be good to have them home again.

So that is us in a nut shell. It has been two years of change and adjustments but there is one who has remained utterly constant and that is our faithful, loving, compassionate God who has gone before us and is with us and we thank Him for that. We say thank you to you too for all your prayers and ongoing support we do appreciate it.

Val Cookney

Stop Press!

Val and Adrian are pleased and excited to announce the birth of their new Granddaughter - Tuesday, 18th September to the proud parents Andrew and Katlin.

Have you ever had Tea at the Ritz? Well, no I hadn't either, except for surely the equivalent one, held one afternoon recently. Following a splendid ride around our beautiful countryside, chauffeured by generous volunteer drivers, a goodly number of senior church friends arrived back at the church.

As usual, faithful Cliff was on hand, helping each from their respective cars.

On entering the hall, a vision of 'The Ritz' indeed! Each table was set with embroidered tablecloths and graced with the prettiest three tier cake-stands. On these rested very dainty, well filled sandwiches, buttered scones and fancy cakes. Alongside were pots of homemade jam and thick cream, to spread to our taste. Welcome cups of tea were quickly served and happy chat ensued – 'Where did you go?' - 'We went to' "Wasn't it lovely" and happy reunions with old friends, with happy memories of former days.

Most grateful thanks to Heather for arranging this once again, and to all concerned in this wonderful pastoral event. How blessed we are to be part of such a fellowship, 'As Tiny Tim almost said

"God Bless them everyone"

Dorothy Brown

Let's open the doors

Have you ever felt in need of a listening ear, craved a space for stillness, wished you had a safe place to be when life becomes overwhelming?

Have you ever wished someone would help you to learn to pray or would help you to grow closer to Jesus or find him for the first time?

Have you felt anger or distress at events happening to you or in the world and wished you could go into church to pray?

We've all had times like this; maybe times when feelings of anxiety, loss or loneliness overwhelm us, or times when we feel the need to get out of the house before we burst, or times when we crave activity to do but don't want to be in a crowd, or times when we feel God isn't close and need some help to come closer to him and to let him help us or to ask him to intervene in the situations of the world.

We would like to offer the people of Lindfield and beyond, of all religions or none, the opportunity to have that safe space.

We want to open the doors to the church each weekday afternoon, provide quiet spaces for those who need it and activity spaces for those who would prefer something to distract their thoughts, spaces for children and adults alike, spaces for all people no matter who they are or how they are feeling.

In order to provide a variety of activities to meet the needs of as many people as possible we are looking for lots of volunteers to offer their gifts and talents. Are you able to offer some time to help? It doesn't have to be weekly, though that would be ideal, monthly or 'one off' offers would also be gratefully received. We also need people willing to help set up on a Sunday.

Please pray for this initiative and, if you are available, come to a meeting in the church on Friday 12th October between 2pm and 4 pm to view a suggested mock up of the regular 'stations' we hope to have available and to give the opportunity to harvest thoughts and ideas for other activities we can offer on a less regular basis. If you aren't able to make that meeting but would be willing to help, either on the open afternoons or in a 'station' preparation role then please contact me in this respect.

Thank you

Jacquie Odell

All you need is Love

John Lennon wrote “All you need is love” for the Beatles to perform as the closing set for Our World, the first live, international satellite television show broadcast on 25th June 1967. Despite cynics’ remarks that the song was naïve and simplistic, the words ring true as Jesus had said much the same thing 2,000 years earlier.

When asked which is the greatest commandment in the Law Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:37-40 NIV). I read that passage recently in a Bible study and it was like reading it for the first time, it is so impactful.

Jesus referenced the first commandment to Deuteronomy 6:5 and the second to Leviticus 19:18. I find it amazing that the commandments of Christianity can be summed up so simply yet so powerfully with love as the centre. Love is something that cannot really be accurately measured or defined, yet it is placed by Jesus at the very core of our faith.

How is it that religion has made things so complex, with all the human trappings of tradition tacked on, that it is sometimes difficult to discern those two commandments amongst all the clutter – yet if everyone, myself included, followed them what an amazing world we would live in!

All you
need
is
love



Saint Augustine (354-340), a Roman African, early Christian theologian and Bishop of Hippo, in an area occupied by Algeria today, regarded the commandment of love in Matthew 22 as the heart of Christian faith and the interpretation of the Bible. His own comment on love was: “What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.” Of course, just because the commandments to love are simple it doesn’t make them easy to follow. But even if we struggle to find love at times we can be assured of God’s love for us and: “...trust in God’s unfailing love for ever and ever” (Psalm 52:8).

Martin Hall

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.

Coffee is served after the morning service.

Holy Communion (4th Sunday)

At **6:30pm** Something Different. 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)
	7:30pm	In Touch (4th Tues) for women of all ages
Wed	2:30pm	The Fellowship (4th Wed) for men and women of all ages
Thur	8:00pm	Church Meeting (2nd Thursday, Alternate Months)
Fri	5:00pm	Rooted (Years 2-5)
	7:00pm	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)
10:00am - Noon.

October Church diary

3rd Wednesday	11:30am 12:30pm	Wednesday Worship Rev Keith Morrison Lunch Fellowship	18th Thursday		House Groups meet this week
4th Thursday		House Groups meet this week	20th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
6th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	21st Sunday	10:00am	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison
7th Sunday				6:30pm	Something Different Rev Keith Morrison
	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Worship Rev Keith Morrison Something Different Rev Keith Morrison	23rd Tuesday	TBA	In Touch (Film) Watch for time
11th Thursday	7:30pm	Improving Our Welcome Andy Twilley	24th Wednesday	2:30pm 7:30pm	The Fellowship Elders' Meeting
13th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC	25th Thursday	8:00pm	Church Prayer Meeting
14th Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Family Worship Adam Earle Communion Rev Keith Morrison	27th Saturday	8:45am	Three Churches Prayer Meeting, URC
			28th Sunday	10:00am 6:30pm	Communion Rev Peter McIntosh Something Different David Goodenough

YOUTH

Hello!



Halloween's popularity is growing. Last year in Britain had the highest number of people going out on October 31st than the years preceding it. In America, it is even bigger, with a quarter of all annual candy sales occurring during the Halloween season. But what makes Halloween so popular, and do people know what they are celebrating?

Halloween is the evening before All Hallows Day or All Saint's Day, celebrated on November 1st. It began in England, Ireland and Northern France. It was a Celtic celebration of the new year.

The Celtic druids saw it as the biggest holiday of the year and emphasized that day as the time when the souls of the dead could supposedly come and move among the living.

It remained popular until Christian Missionaries arrived in the area. As people began to convert to Christianity, the holiday began to lose momentum. Instead of allowing the holiday to vanish, the church used these holidays with a Christian twist to bring paganism and Christianity together.

During this season, it was a druidic belief that the demons, witches and evil spirits that could move among the living would have fun with the people they met. Frightening them and playing mean tricks on them. The only way to keep the spirits at bay, it seemed, was to offer them things they liked, including fancy food and sweets; or, disguise themselves as one of them and join their roaming.

So, what should the church's view on Halloween be today?

In Philippians 2:8 we read,
'In conclusion, my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable.

And in Ephesians 5:8-11 we read,
You yourselves used to be in the darkness, but since you have become the Lord's people, you are in the light. So, you must live like people who belong to the light, for it is the light that brings a rich harvest of every kind of goodness, righteousness, and truth. Try to learn what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the worthless things that people do, things that belong to the darkness. Instead, bring them out to the light.

These verses call us to have no association with any type of dark activity. In fact, in the final verse above, we are to shed light upon this topic to those around us.

God is calling humanity to follow Him. To be in the world, but not of the world. To show the world that it lives in darkness and He is the light that gets rid of it.

So, this Halloween, let's focus on the Light of the World. The one who banishes the darkness. And let's be His light in Lindfield.

Boys' Brigade

The new session got off to a good start with all boys returning after the summer holidays.

The Junior Section currently has the most boys as a number moved up from Anchors at the end of last session. This means we now need to increase the numbers in the Anchor Section and are encouraging the boys to bring a friend. Of course we would be very happy if boys in every section brought a friend.

Our first main event is the enrolment service which will be held on Monday 8th October at 6.30pm in the church. This is an occasion when boys (and staff) reaffirm their commitment to the Company. It is also an occasion when the church show their commitment to the work of their Boys' Brigade Company. We hope you will be able to join us for about an hour at this event.

David Walters

PAGES

Danny

Learning Together

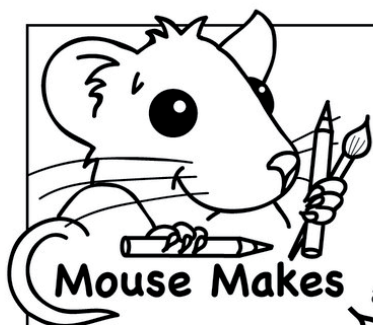
Becoming parents has already taught us a lot. One Sunday at a previous Church that Danny and I attended, there was a time for the congregation to share things that God had done during the week. One lady who had recently had a baby went up to the front and shared something I have remembered for years, and can now understand more for myself. She told of how her new baby was fully dependent on her and her husband for everything, to be fed, changed and comforted. She went on to say how, as children of God, we are the same. As our lovely new baby Josie needs us for constant help and comfort, and we rely on God to do the same.

This has certainly been the case as we have been learning how to be parents!

We continue to learn together, as a new little family, and we have already had a few adventures. A trip to Worthing to see friends get married turned into staying with family for a month whilst we waited to move into our new home. We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who gave gifts and cards celebrating Josie's birth and our move, knowing we have your support and prayers means a lot!

Ruth and Danny Goodall





READ the whole story
in 1 Kings 18:16-40

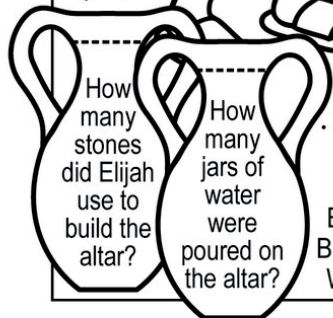
God's prophet **Elijah** built a big bonfire and had the prophets of the god **Baal** build one too.

Elijah said "*Call on Baal to light the fire and burn the sacrifice*" ... but Baal did not answer because he was just an idol made of stone.

Elijah had his bonfire drenched in water then he called on the Lord God. The fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the water around it. All the people saw

this and cried:

"*The Lord -
He is God!*"



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

Can you find these words from the story in the word search?
ELIJAH • ISRAEL • PROPHETS • BAAL • CARMEL • GOD
BULL • WOOD • LORD • TEST • ALTAR • SHOUT • STONES
WATER • POUR • FILL • FIRE • SKY • CONSUMED • DIRT

What if your faith had a deadline?

That was the question at the beginning of a letter from 'Open Doors'. Then the letter suggested we imagined Christianity, Christians, churches and prayer groups being eradicated in three years. 60 million Christians in India have been threatened with this in 2021 by a Hindu extremist group.

Maybe you are thinking it couldn't happen here, but is it possible?

On the last survey of faith fewer people are attending church and the number with no religion is increasing. Maybe we are being too complacent and don't realise that attitudes have changed.

What Can We Do?

In Hebrews we read 'And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other.'

We have the example of the early church who were always meeting together Acts 2.44.

We have opportunities to meet on a Sunday at 10.00 am and 6.30 pm and on the first Wednesday at 11.30 am to hear God's Word and have fellowship over coffee.

When Peter and John were released by the Council they found the believers together and prayed with them. Acts 4.23-24.

Let us follow their example and meet together for prayer:-

Every Monday at 9.30 am
for an hour followed by coffee.

EVERY 4th THURSDAY at 8.00 pm

Can we change things?
Give thanks that 'all things are possible with God'

Carol Walters



Sister Act

Sister Sister are a group of six ladies who sing together. We sing A Capella, and sometimes with guitar or key board accompaniment, under the leadership of Hereward Kaye (former member of the Flying Pickets).

We cover songs from the 60s to the present day, including numbers by The Beatles, Abba, Bob Marley, Dusty Springfield, Ed Sheeran, and Elbow.

The group first came together about eight years ago, and our current members have been together for the last four.

In 2015 we auditioned for a Gareth Malone production 'The Naked Choir' which featured A Capella groups. We were amongst the final 20 groups selected for the South East.

In 2017, Sister Sister reached the finals of 'The One', a local competition for singers and groups.

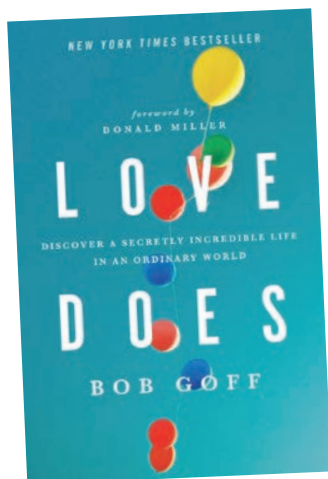
We sing together for pleasure, but also for charitable causes, including St Peter and St James Hospice.

Peter Swann & Sister Sister



Book Review

Love Does
by Bob Goff



I first read this book a number of years ago, but its life transforming and affirming brilliance is such that I think it deserves a mention here. *Love Does* by Bob Goff is sensational.

Bob is a Californian Lawyer, and through his human rights work he is currently the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Uganda. He labels himself as 'Chief Balloon Inflator' at *Love Does*, and his office is on Tom Sawyer Island at Disneyland in California – because why not? (and also because he hasn't told Disneyland yet).

Bob takes us on a journey of stories and anecdotes, and to each he connects a deeper, philosophical meaning. It is safe to say Bob has lived the most exceptional life.

“I used to think you had to be special for God to use you, but now I know you simply need to say yes.”

Bob Goff, *Love Does*

This is largely due to his relentless pursuit of God's purpose for him, and understanding the Bible isn't a revision guide to ore over, but an instruction manual to live out in everyday life. A life full of (as he calls it) 'whimsy' and love. His attitude towards faith and loving others is not only inspirational, but infectious.

Each chapter contains a new lesson about life and love. From the power of forgiveness, to when simple acts of kindness and grace can last a lifetime. Bob goes through life seeing Jesus in everything from the mundane to the magical. *Love Does* fills you with a desire to dive into life with the lessons you've learned, inspiring you to go out in the world and spread love in the way Jesus did, and Bob does.

I am currently on my 3rd copy of *Love Does*, having lent it to so many people on more than one occasion it hasn't made it back to me! It is the kind of book you cannot help but immediately want to share with everyone around you, and if everyone did read *Love Does*, the world would be much better for it.

Shoebbox Appeal

Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child.

It's that wonderful time of year again, when Lindfield URC collect and fill shoeboxes to send around the world as an expression of God's love to needy children in a tangible way.

Let us be a part of changing children's lives in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child.

Each child receives a shoebox as an unconditional gift of love, based on need, regardless of their background or religion.

See the impact that a simple shoebox gift packed and sent with love, has on a child and how it reaches a community.

The Mission table will display details and leaflets from the beginning of October, and if you haven't got a shoebox there will be flat packs available for a nominal fee.

For anyone who cannot get out, 'Operation Christmas Child' will pack a box on their behalf. If this interests you please contact someone on the Missions team i.e. Terry, Helen, Jean or Lesley, and they will sort this out for you.

The boxes must be deposited in church no later than November 11th. Donations in the usual envelopes would also be gratefully received.

Missions Team



Mission Weekend

From lunch-time on Saturday to lunch-time on Sunday a banner in the Church declaimed that “everyone should have the opportunity to hear the gospel at least once”. This is a vision of Operation Mobilisation, seven workers, from which, were with us for our Mission Weekend.

As the OM team, Keith, Danny, the Missions Group, and other helpers gathered to meet over a sandwich lunch, and to pray before the first event, it was clear how many from the Church were involved: the providers and servers and clearers-up of food and drink, the technology, stewards, music team, and more.

First up was: “Sharing One’s Faith” as Mark from (OM London), taught us how to talk about our faith. He explained about the different contexts, and styles for evangelism, and started us, in pairs, developing and sharing testimonies. It was encouraging to see how involved and animated everybody was.



After a tea break, (with cakes!), Mark explained what it means for us to be visible Christians. He outlined a pattern for sharing faith based on “One Wish” by Richard Sharp. (Available from: www.OneWish4U.com.) Again, we split into pairs and practiced this. Keith finished with a challenge: to come to the morning service in a week’s time with examples of how we had applied the learning.

There followed a lovely time of fellowship, firstly with delectable mocktails prepared by Danny and Alex, and then forty (plus) sat down to a freshly prepared, and equally delectable, two-course, supper.

The evening concluded with Phil talking about OM. As well as a presence in 115 countries, OM have a whole programme of discipleship training, and short and long term mission activities. His daughter Rachel told us about her recent short term assignment with OM team in a refugee camp in Serbia and Simon how much his oldest son enjoyed the annual, two week, TeenStreet events in Germany.

Sunday morning focussed on the OM work which Lindfield URC supports. Simon, working with Middle Eastern communities in North East London, preached on the conversion of Cornelius and

Called to be an Elder

told us about the previous Sunday when he had been, in the water, helping with baptism of seven Iranian converts. Keith interviewed Rupe, from the OM team in Peja, Kosovo. Rupe directs the trade school programme and Geni, his wife, the House of Joy, which is the focus of our September and October Mission Giving. They had returned, to the UK earlier in the week, for three months, with Geni expecting their first child during this time. Elaine, Phil's wife, went out with the older children and talked about telling others about Jesus in a child friendly way. She used their daughter Becky, who is in Nepal, as an example, engaging with the children on what they think they would need to take a trek up the mountains. Prayers were written for Becky, which she has, delightedly, now received and will be responding to. After coffee Rupe and Simon told us more about the work they are engaged in.

The Missions Group would like to thank everybody who contributed and attended the various events. So much has come out, to be digested, and, with Keith, Danny and the elders, developed into a continuing programme of engagement and learning with OM.

What does this mean? Well the first thing to say about being an elder is it is a ministry to which you are called by God. God may be laying this on your heart and you are considering your response if asked. This call can come through another Church Member because of what they discern about you. Therefore not only do members need to seek Gods will concerning possibly being an Elder they also need to seek Gods will on who they should nominate for this role in the life of the United Reformed Church. All Church Members therefore have a responsibility in this process.

Nominations forms, which can be obtained from the Church Secretary, must be returned to the Church Secretary by the Church Meeting on 8th November. Nominees must be over the age of 18 years, have been in membership for at least 12 months and agree to their name going forward. The nomination must be seconded by two Church Members.

Two Serving Elders, Sue Waller and Jeremy Campling complete their current term this year and can be nominated for a further term if they agree to stand and we also have a number of vacancies on the Eldership.

Elders share with the minister in the pastoral oversight and leadership of the local church. If you need more information please talk to Keith or any Elder. There is also information on being an Elder on the URC Website and Sue Waller also has a booklet with more information.

Please consider carefully and prayerfully.

David Walters

Who am I?

Congratulations to those of you who guessed that the focus of the September “Who am I?” was Jeannie Welch, who can normally be found sitting on the concourse in our morning services. Jeannie ran an Art Club when she lived in Oakleigh, so when she moved to Lindfield over 11 years ago she was invited to join our own Art Club by her friends Lily Watson and Roy Mundy. That was her first experience of LURC, but soon she started to worship here and she came into membership in the year of Charles’ retirement as Minister. Jeannie now considers the congregation at LURC as her second family.

Jeannie had a busy working life, firstly as a nursery nurse, then into nursing at a number of hospitals in SE England, before going into accounts. Naturally she is now Treasurer of the Art Club! Her love of curry started at the age of two and came from her Mother, who grew up in India where Jeannie’s Grandfather was a member of the Colonial Service.

Jeannie considers herself a very lucky lady and is still revelling in new experiences. In September she enjoyed her first flight in a four-seat, single-engined, propeller driven aircraft flying out of Shoreham airport. She flew down the coast to Portsmouth, round the Ilse of Wight and then back via Lindfield, where she spotted the pond and waved at LURC!

Jeannie sat up front next to the pilot and said it was an amazing experience. Being able to look directly forwards out of the window felt like she was “floating in the air”! If you don’t know her, do introduce yourself to Jeannie and learn more about this lovely lady.

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

Paul Bloxham 01444 483672

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

7th	Harvest	Jo Bloxham
14th	Jessie Green	Iris Bingham
21st	Janet Wade	Heather Swann
28th	Jenny Machell	Fo Tingley

November

4th	Betty Billins	Sue Tester
11th	Armistice Sunday	Carol Marsh
18th	Sue Waller	Meta Orchin
25th	Carol Walters	Jo Bloxham

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 3rd October

8:00pm Lindfield Preservation Society in King Edward Hall:
Talk : "Chanctonbury Ring – the Story of a Sussex Landmark"
By Janet Pennington

Wednesday 10th October

12:15pm Tiger Arts - Lunch at Lindfield URC
1:00pm Concert at Lindfield URC :
Ardingly College Music School Students
8:00pm Lindfield Horticultural Society in King Edward Hall
Talk "Hardy's Cottage Plants" by Rosie Hardy

Saturday 13th October

10:00am Lindfield Horticultural Society in Jubilee Room KEH
Coffee Morning and Plant Sale

Thursday 18th October

7:30pm Village Film Night in King Edward Hall
TBA, Tickets available from Tufnells



www.lindfieldurc.org.uk