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Trinity E-News



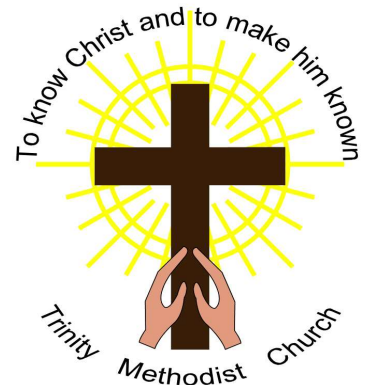
Issue 4 / 21

Trinity's email: trinity@basingstokecircuit.net

May 2021



Our Minister is:
Rev'd Audrey D Browne
 ☎: 01256 323103;
 email:
padbrowne@hotmail.com



**Good News –
 Sunday Worship is
 being held at
 Trinity again.** It
 commenced on
Sunday 25 April.
 Services are also
Zoomed.

**Our thanks to all our
 'Zoom team' who
 continue to enable
 those at home to share
 in Worship with us via
 Zoom on Sundays.**

Link to our Website:
<https://www.basingstoke-readingmethodists.uk/>



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Trinity E-News – Deadline for June 2021 – Wednesday 21 May

Trinity E-News is on our Basingstoke & Reading Website. I look forward to receiving your lovely articles, so **please keep them coming** and a **Big Thankyou** to everyone who sends in articles. Items can be sent by email or post. **Thank you again,**
Hazel, Ed (☎ 01256-461375)
 16B Portacre Rise, Basingstoke, RG21 1YQ. **My email is:**
hazel@basingstokecircuit.net



'Slow Journeys in the Same Direction' –

A beautifully designed Colouring Book, can be used for relaxation or during daily devotions.

Available from: www.methodistpublishing.org.uk

May 2021

Dear friends,

On 23rd May there is a Christian festival called **Pentecost** which arises from a Jewish festival of the same name. The Christian one focuses on the gift of God's Holy Spirit in the lives of people and its transforming and empowering effects.

One of these extraordinary features of Pentecost was the ability to speak in languages which everyone could understand, wherever they were from and whichever language they normally spoke.

I would like to reflect on three aspects of **communication** experienced universally – in ideas, in music and in love.

We live in an age of very rapid communication. The very description of "world wide web" is a reminder of how dynamically we are all interconnected.

Some **ideas**, attitudes, philosophies have spread rapidly around the globe. There are ideas which have transcended cultural and national boundaries, shaping our thinking, our outlook and behaviour. The kind of ideas which became enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights may serve as one out of countless possible examples.

Music too is a universal language that can move and excite and add depth to people's lives. Sir Malcolm Sargent once described music as "the soul of man speaking to the soul of man through sound". An African choir, a European rock band, the steel drums of the Caribbean, the sitars of India or a Beethoven symphony can enliven people of all racial backgrounds.

Love, too, shown in compassionate healing, warm affection, comforting embrace and in the sustained affirmative gaze of another "makes the world go round". Of all great qualities love is the most powerful international language.

Pentecost is, among other things, the celebration of the Holy Spirit of God enabling

people to understand and to be understood. All such communication has its origin in God.

Let's be open to being communicators across the nations, across the generations, across the cultures.

With love,

Reverend David Jenkins

TRINITY CHURCH MAP SURVEY

Our grateful thanks to all those who took part in this survey, and for those who prayed especially for our guidance.

We now go forward to the second stage of this process and will keep you informed.

Barbara, Diane and Jennifer

Our Easter Cross by Jennifer Pitt, Wendy and Sue – thank you.



Church Worship at Trinity

The plan for May for our Basingstoke Churches is shown below.

Good News, Sunday Worship is being held at Trinity again. It commenced on **Sunday 25 April**. Services are also **Zoomed**.

You still need to register your wish to attend Sunday Worship, to comply with government guidelines, so please let me know if you intend coming, (☎: 01256 320429) or email: dianeath51@gmail.com

Thank you, Diane Bath

Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Plan for May 2021 (Basingstoke Churches)

Dates	2 May	9 May	16 May	23 May	30 May
Kempshott 10.30 am	Zoom	Zoom	Zoom	Zoom	Zoom
Oakley 10.30 am	No Service	No Service	Browne, S	No Service	No Service
Oakridge 11.00 am	Coomber	LA	Whithorn	LA	Baugh
Old Basing	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
St Andrew's 10.30 am	No Service	Browne, S	No Service	Hoe	No Service
Trinity 10.30 am	Browne, S	Pitt / Reed	Rowe	Browne	Shaw

Christian Aid Week 2021



Christian Aid Week this year is 10th to 16th May. The service at Trinity on 9th May will use some of the Christian Aid material, and will pick up their theme for this year.

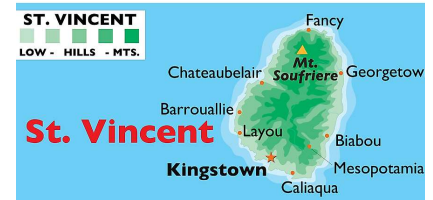
While some door-to-door collections will take place this year, they will still be curtailed by Covid restrictions. As an alternative, there will be a Retiring Collection for Christian Aid at that service on 9th May, so please come prepared. (For those who cannot attend the service in person, donations can be made online, or if you are in the area you could drop an envelope into the Church letterbox.)

Tony Pitt

100 years ago, on 15 May, the British Legion was founded.

Published by Trinity Methodist Church; 'Registered Charity number 1128299'

The Ongoing La Soufrière Volcanic Eruption in St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Friends, I want to express sincere thanks for your continued prayers on behalf of the people and Government of SVG, as La Soufrière Volcano remains in a phase of ongoing explosive eruption. Seismologists have reported over 30 episodes of explosive eruption since Friday 9th April 2021. More than 13,300 people, one fifth of the population have been displaced from their homes and are in emergency shelters or staying with family and friends. This is indeed a tremendous disruption to Vincentians' daily lives and livelihood.

Daily Government and Scientific briefings suggest that the magnitude of this phase of explosive eruption of La Soufrière exceeds the 1979 explosive eruption and may be comparable to, or worse than, the 1902 explosive eruption. Scientists are predicting that this phase of eruption of La Soufrière may last months rather than weeks. The volcano is ejecting rivers of 'Pyroclastic Materials' (a high-density mix of lava blocks, rocks, ash and gas), which is extremely dangerous, as they are flowing down the mountain into the western and eastern valleys and reaching the coastlines on the west and the east of the Island. The communities closest to the volcano have been completely devastated, particularly the vegetation, including crops, farms, livestock and the less robust housing infrastructures. These communities depend heavily on agriculture and fishing for their livelihood, so the extensive damage to the land and coastline has the potential to adversely affect their way of life for a very long time. Both the water and electricity infrastructures continue to be affected by the heavy ash fall, leaving most on the mainland (St. Vincent) without running water and/or electric power for long periods. Flights at the Argyle International Airport remain suspended.

The volcano is in the north of the Island and my family is in the far south (the green zone), but given the small size of the Island, approximately 10 miles east to west and 18 miles north to south, everyone is affected by the noisy rumblings of the volcano and the heavy ash fall. So it's a very difficult time for Islanders in SVG and the surrounding Islands such as Barbados, St Lucia, and Grenada, as they too are affected by the heavy ash fall. I speak with my family on a regular basis and they are all coping very well although they too are severely affected by the aftereffects of the heavy ash fall.

I closely monitor the current situation on the ground in SVG by tuning into NBC, their national radio broadcasting station. This allows me to catch up with the daily Government and Scientific updates and gives me a balanced view of the current situation on the ground. The leading Seismologist warned evacuees that they need to learn to live in the south of the Island, as he is unable to predict when it would be safe for people to be repatriated to their homes in the North. The Island remains in a state of uncertainty and volatility, since there is a likelihood that this

La Soufrierè Volcanic Eruption cont'd.....

phase of explosive volcanic eruption may continue for a protracted period. This compounds the life and living conditions of the people of SVG, as they face the many-sided challenges of COVID-19, the ongoing explosive volcanic eruption of La Soufrierè and its aftermath, together with the onset of the hurricane season. In his address to the UN, the Prime Minister, the Hon Dr Ralf E Gonsalves, has appealed to the global community not to abandon SVG in its darkest hour of need. In response, the United Nations has declared a humanitarian catastrophe in SVG and has launched a global appeal fund on behalf of SVG to assist with the recovery and reconstruction of the Nation.

The 1979 explosive eruption of La Soufrierè is vivid in my 10-year-old mind's eye. An ongoing episodic volcanic eruption includes hours of seismic tremors (that may or may not be felt), and loud rumblings. Tuesday 13th April 2021 was the 42nd anniversary of when that explosive eruption started, as Good Friday 13th April 1979 turned into a dark Friday. We were off school for almost a year. Children and young people face the same uncertainty today, as all schools are being used to accommodate evacuees for an indefinite period of time. It was September 1979, when I turned 11 years old, that I gave my life to Jesus Christ. Not long after my born-again experience I had an encounter with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, which has stayed with me on a daily basis throughout my life. My spiritual experience at a time of great challenge as a child has sustained me in my travels abroad and continues to do so today.

More than anything else Vincentians need your continued prayers. We thank God for all who continue to come to the aid of Vincentians, locally, regionally and internationally. This is indeed a blessing! The devastation is enormous and is described by many as *apocalyptic*. Vincentians are fully cognizant that the recovery and reconstruction cost will be huge – but we serve a faithful God. We have been here before and God came through for us time and again, and he can and will come through for us this time. So we trust God for the recovery and reconstruction of the Nation, which gave us no mansion or riches, but taught us 'soundness of moral character, dignity, and the fear of God'.

Rev'd Audrey D Browne

Donations: David Shaw has been in contact with me regarding the volcanic eruption on St Vincent. We know Audrey is from there but there are also members at Wesley who have their roots and family in St Vincent's. We would like to get any money Donated sent off as soon as possible. So if you wish to Donate, can you please put Donations straight into the following account:

**Bank: Wise Bank, 56 Shoreditch High Street, London E1 6JJ.
Account name: UK – SVG Friendship Trust. Account number: 67153523.
Sort code: 23-14-70. Reference: Volcano.**

Thank you, Jennifer Pitt

100th **THANK YOU THANK YOU** *100th*
Birthday *Birthday*

You got my birthday off to a good start. Being able to go to church the day before really set it going. I did not expect anything and was very surprised at what went on.

Birthdays have not always been my best times. I missed four in a row and possibly the most miserable day of my life was my 21st birthday.

The day arrived and was expected to be a very sombre affair, it was expected that Brenda, Audrey, Keith and I would have a meal together and we had decided to have fish and chips. After all we do come from Grimsby and when I started work on the fish docks Grimsby was recognised as the largest fishing port in the world.

We were sitting, talking with phone calls from Australia, Canada and many more when completely unexpectedly some of my family, who I had not seen for some months, just walked in. We were very careful about distancing and they only stayed for an hour, but it really made the day.

Every surface in my lounge has a card on it – I have 76 cards and it is surprising how many have **'100'** on them.

I have been introduced to Moonpeg and I understand I am on Facebook in Australia.

THANKS AGAIN, Nobby



HRH, Prince Phillip, The Duke of Edinburgh

The first time I went to St James' Palace, I did not know what to expect. I was accompanying a Boys Brigade boy who was there to receive his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award from the Duke himself.

I thought it would be a case of shake hands and "Well Done" and pass on – all very quickly. BUT NOT THE PRINCE.

Yes he did shake hands with each one and then had a conversation with all. He wanted to know what they had all done to achieve the award. He was not in a hurry.

I was most impressed.

Nobby

Christian Aid – A District Challenge



Dear Friends: We are sending through details of a District Challenge which has been organised with Christian Aid. As many of us, and our family and friends, are receiving the Covid vaccine we are inviting you to please donate to the work of Christian Aid on our own District giving page:

<https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/giving-thanks-for-our-vaccines-across-southampton-methodist-district>

Much of their work is across the world in areas where the vaccine will be rolled out in a much later, and slower, way than ours is being done. In order to ensure that the medical teams have all that they need to facilitate the roll-out of the vaccine the support from organisations like Christian Aid is vital.

We have set our District a challenge of raising at least £2,600 – representing our District number of 26! – so please do give as generously as you can and spread the word to family, friends and community groups so that we ask everyone to share the joy of getting their own vaccine with sisters and brothers around the world. We are also working on a press release to go to local news outlets and this should be available next week. Our suggested donation is £10 but please just give as you are able. (Note: **click on 'custom amount'** to choose your preferred donation, and where it asks for platform fees you can select **'other'** and then zero.)

Let us not only meet our target but smash through it as we journey through the next few months. We also invite you to hold the work of Christian Aid in your prayers as they work on our behalf. I hope that you, and those closest to you, are able to stay safe and keep well.

Every blessing,

Andrew (Revd Andrew de Vile, District Chair of the Southampton District)

* * * * *

UPDATE:

Dear friends,

I am very pleased to say that just 4 days after launching our District Challenge to raise crucial funds for Christian Aid we have hit and passed our target of £2600!!

The donations have been numerous and you have been very generous – thank you! I am very humbled by the response and encourage us all to continue to give as more family and friends are vaccinated and to share the link so others can contribute as well. Might I suggest that we set a new target shall we see if we can reach £5,000 over the next few weeks!!!

If you are unable to give online but wish to make a donation you can send a cheque payable to 'Southampton Methodist District' – please contact Sarah for details of where to send it. (Marion or Lee, Circuit Administrators should have Sarah's details).

from our Circuit Notices

Message from Tracey Darling

"Dear all – It's hard to believe that it is over 18 months ago that Paul, Stefan and I left Basingstoke for the Yorkshire Dales as I began my first post as a Probationer Presbyterian in the Skipton and Grassington Circuit. No one could have imagined what those 18 months would have in store. I'm pleased to let you know that subject to Covid restrictions being lifted, I will be received into Full Connexion and Ordained on Sunday 27 June.

Reception into Full Connexion will take place in the Hilton Birmingham Metropole NEC at 10.45 am. Ordination will take place at Coventry Central Hall at 4 pm. Tickets (free of charge) will be available from Monday 29 March (9 am) at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-conference/conference-2021/ordinations-2021/book-tickets/>

(The above link is the Correct link – a previous link that was sent out was incorrect)

It would be lovely to see some of you there if you are able to attend.

Every blessing, Tracey"

Tracey's Ordination on 27 June 2021

As a church we won't be able to all sign a large card (as we would usually do) with all our good wishes and greetings to send to Tracey on the occasion of her Ordination at the end of June.

If you would like to send your greetings and good wishes for Tracey to me, I will put everyone's greetings onto a large card to send to Tracey from all of us at Trinity.

Jennifer Pitt

Prayer for Pentecost

Loving Father God,
 Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit;
 Your Spirit who knows no restrictions or barriers;
 Your Spirit who can reach us and be with us and in us,
 wherever we are, whatever our circumstances;
 Your Spirit who comforts and heals and empowers us to live with
 confidence that, ultimately, all shall be well;
 Your Spirit who connects us, through the life, death, resurrection and
 ascension of Jesus.
 Because of Jesus' victory over death we have hope and life forever.
 Thank you, loving Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Pentecost this year is on 23 May (Parish Pump)

Have you heard about COP26?

In November this year, the UK will be hosting the 26th annual session of the *Conference of Parties* to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, or “COP26”, in Glasgow. The heads of state and climate experts will come together to agree coordinated action to tackle climate change. In addition, space will be provided for a variety of organisations to showcase climate action, to highlight climate change issues and to share knowledge.

Sir David Attenborough, naturalist and broadcaster, says this, “Right now, we are facing a man-made disaster of global scale. Our greatest threat in thousands of years. Climate change.” In 2015, at the Paris climate talks, world leaders agreed to keep the increase in global temperature to “well below” 2°C and to try to keep it to 1.5°C. Since then, however, it has become clear that current action is nowhere near enough to reach even the 2°C target. The heads of Natural England and the Environment Agency have together said that this year is the “last chance” to act. Young people in this country have made their voices clear, that they expect our Government to take more dramatic action, echoing the voices of young people around the world. For those of us who are older, we are unlikely to see the catastrophe in our lifetimes, but we still have a responsibility to our children and our children’s children to do something.

The Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) is organising a *Relay to COP26*, to make those voices heard across the country in the run-up to the conference. The relay starts on 11th June in St Ives and reaches Glasgow on 30th October, as the delegates gather for the conference. They will be passing through Reading on 29 – 30th July. Will you get involved? We are not expecting everyone reading this to volunteer to walk! On their website, <http://yccn.uk/>, you can find out about the various ways to get involved in their event – it’s open to all ages.

Trinity is working towards EcoChurch certification, as you will have seen in previous issues of Trinity News. A large part of that process is encouraging us as a Church, and as individual Church members, to care for the environment and to do what we can to reduce our contribution to climate change. Even if you feel you cannot support the Relay to COP26, I would ask that you try to take a small step yourself, and most importantly to pray about the issue of climate change and the devastating effect it is already having in some parts of the world.

Tony Pitt and Peter Ansell

Live Streamed Services, resources & information: Please click on link to its live streamed services and useful links and resources. <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/seasons-and-themes/worship-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Wesley Church (Reading) Online Services – Video’s & Texts: If anyone wishes to access past Services from Wesley, please click on the following link: <https://www.wesleychurchreading.org>

Coronavirus Guidance & Updates: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus/>



Wedding Congratulations

to

Sam Lee & Rob Hall

who are getting married at Trinity

on Saturday 22 May 2021



*We send our love and best wishes to you both and to
Freya, Cody and baby Theo*

from all your Trinity friends



xx



Be kind to each other

'And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.' (Matthew 10:42)

During the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been thousands of shining examples up and down the country of people going the extra mile to help the elderly, vulnerable and those at risk. The helpers have been shopping, cooking meals, making regular telephone calls and checking that needs are being met. We must sincerely hope that these acts of kindness will continue well beyond the coronavirus outbreak. Simple acts of kindness are so important in cementing the fabric of our society. Some years ago, this thought inspired the following poem:

A Brighter Tomorrow

There is much we can do just to brighten this world of all take and no give,
There's a great deal that we can contribute through the everyday lives that we live.

By supporting one's elderly neighbours or through lending a hand in some way
It's by taking a bunch of spring flowers to someone to brighten their day.

It's by sparing a few precious hours in the service of those most in need
It's all about setting a standard and trying to give others a lead.

It's the way that we tend to treat others and help and aid folks in distress
It's the care and assistance we offer that will set us apart from the rest.

The choice that we face is quite simple the rewards plain for all men to see
'As you did all of this to my brother then' said Christ, 'you did it to Me.'

by Colin Hammacott (Parish Pump)

Useful Trinity Contacts, phone numbers & emails:

Our Minister: Rev'd Audrey D Browne,
 ☎: 01256 323103 / email: padbrowne@hotmail.com

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Church Office: ☎ 01256-816173
 email: trinity@basingstokecircuit.net

* * * * *

Church Contact / Senior Steward: Diane Bath –
 ☎ 01256 320429 / e-mail: r_bath@sky.com

* * * * *

Bookings / Car Parking: Contact: Sue Doust –
 ☎ 01256 229456 / e-mail: rogerdoust@aol.com

* * * * *

Church Treasurer: David Gunton –
 ☎ 01256 352342 / e-mail: david@gunton.org

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Church Property: Tony Pitt –
 ☎ 01256 816314 / email: organista@btinternet.com

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Trinity E-News Editor: Hazel Harris –
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Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:
www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk

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Basingstoke & Reading Circuit is a Registered Charity,
 Charity No. is: 1134891

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Trinity Methodist Church is a Registered Charity,
 Charity No. is 1128299

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Pray with us

Gracious God,
 In an economic system which has winners and losers, give to our leaders the grace to work together for good: especially the good of the poorest and most marginalised, the hungry and the homeless, the vulnerable and oppressed, the hurting and the exploited.

We pray for encouragement for those who are worried for the future, and for compassion amongst those who can transform the present.

In Jesus' name, Amen
Taken from Methodist JPIT News

Easter Day in our 'Welcome Area' by Yvonne Hunt



Medication Blister Packs

What do you do with your empty blister packs from your medication?

The answer is probably throw them away. I have found a place that collects them and recycles them, reducing land fill and the amount of new plastic and foil that is manufactured.

All you have to do is bring your empty tablet packets (anything that comes in a blister pack including non-prescription drugs) to church and drop them in the **white labelled bin provided and I will do the rest.**

Do your bit for the planet and start collecting today.

With an aging congregation this might be something we can excel at !

Jennifer Pitt



RECYCLING CONTINUES THROUGH COVID



Despite lockdown, people are continuing to recycle with us. I check the bin more or less every 3 days and it is usually full. As I write this I have just sent off 30kg of biscuit and crisp wrappers and Ella baby food pouches! So do keep saving those wrappers and pass the word around friends and family.

I am quite happy to pick up any recycling if you are unable to drop it off.

Many thanks to all my collectors.

Hazel G (☎: **Mob: 07776 442529**)

How to Keep Ground Coffee Fresh

The battle rages: just where IS the best place to store your ground coffee? Sainsbury's, Morrison's, Asda, Marks & Spencer and Ocado are among the supermarkets that advise you keep fresh ground coffee in a fridge or freezer after opening. But Tesco, Waitrose and Harrods advise that you store ground coffee and beans in a cool, dry place such as a kitchen cupboard.

Many coffee experts warn that storing your coffee in the fridge is wrong because coffee easily absorbs aroma, moisture and flavours, and can be tainted by fish, meat and cheese.

Martin Isark, founder of the 'Can I Eat It' website, laments: "So much coffee is spoilt by poor storage, which makes the coffee producers want to weep..." Paul Rooke of the 'British Coffee Association' adds: "Coffee, like many food and drink products when exposed to air, will deteriorate. Cool and dry are the key words; the ideal storage is in an inert, airtight container stored in a cool place."

Parish Pump





Silchester Retreats are going ONLINE!

Silchester Methodist Church have been running a successful programme of day retreats for several years and these will continue when restrictions lift. We are now offering an exciting opportunity to engage in an online Zoom retreat morning led by the Silchester team.

All the details including how to register are in the above poster and listed below. We look forward to welcoming you on **Saturday 8 May!**

Ebenezer Retreat Centre, Silchester Methodist Church

“Come to me”

8 May 2021 from 9.30 am – 12.15 pm

Lesley – (revlesleymartin@btinternet.com)

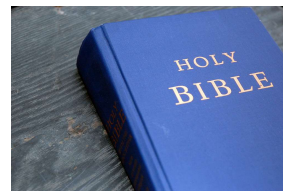
Angela – (angela.hiscock@btinternet.com)

For more information and booking details for Zoom session

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement"

Romans 12:6-8

Words. Do we still say that?



Language is a moving thing.

Often we know what we want to say, but how?

While looking through the TV Times recently, I noticed this heading: 'Saved and Remade'. It is a programme similar to 'The Repair Shop' which is very popular.

Items are brought along, and craftspeople repair them to a high standard.

The skill of the craftspeople is amazing, far better than anything I could achieve.

I grew up in The Salvation Army. William Booth, its founder, decided on this name, for a Christian denomination concerned with the conversion of men, women, and children. It aptly describes the focus of the people called 'Salvationists'

So what does 'Saved and Remade' mean? The word 'Saved' is rarely mentioned nowadays

We are urged to be Christians, but the level of commitment is often left for us to decide

In John Chapter 3, we read of a man named Nicodemus. He was a learned scholar a Pharisee, who came to Jesus, asking about eternal life. Jesus told him 'You have to be born again,' not just repaired, but remade in God's image.

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians Chapter 5 'If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation the old has gone, the new has come. (NIV)

My husband's Aunt, who was quite elderly when I knew her, used to ask me if I thought the Lord might come soon, today in fact? She was an earnest Christian, concerned for my soul. How blessed we are if someone has ventured to ask us that question.

Nowadays religion has become personal, private, and I confess to feeling slightly uncomfortable when certain questions are asked. Soon we celebrate Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit on those frightened men in the upper room.

They were transformed, they went out into their world, on fire for God.

In their day, other men and women, have so fired the church that buildings have not been large enough to hold them.

John Wesley, John Newton, who knew what it was to be 'Saved', William Booth and many more. Are we of the mind, that is in the past, not relevant to this generation? Are we brave enough to ask ourselves the question?

May God bless us this Whitsuntide, and help us to have a new vision.

Margaret Garland

***70 years ago, on 9 May 1951 the Lake District National Park was established.
It was Britain's second national park.***



COVID 19 UPDATE:



BASINGSTOKE FOODBANK CONTINUES TO DELIVER DIRECTLY TO HOMES THROUGH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Our foodbank relies on Your Goodwill and Support. Monetary Donations big or small are also gratefully received. Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in [The Trussell Trust](#) network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

Our Basingstoke Centre remains open for donations of **food & toiletries including fresh veg, bread & eggs** during our regular opening times which are from 10 am – 3 pm, Monday to Friday. Due to the risk of Covid, we need to reduce the numbers of visitors to Basingstoke Foodbank's warehouse to protect both yourselves, and our volunteers. If you would like to donate any items, please **'shop and drop'** goods into the permanent crates provided for us by our supporting supermarkets, or at any of the other donation points. We still have donation points around the region, find your nearest collection point below. **THANK YOU** for your continued support!

Check out our Website at: <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Also on Our Website, you will find the list of locations & times where you can donate food: **Locations are: Tesco Chineham; Annies Charity Shop Winklebury; Sainsburys Tadley; Co-op Food Old Basing; Londis Sherfield on Loddon; Co-op Food Rooksdown; Waitrose Basing View; Asda Brighton Hill; Lidl's Worting Road & Reading Road; Sainsburys Kempshott; Sainsburys, The Malls; One Stop Oakley; The Vicarage St Mary's Church Old Basing; Leighton Opticians & Hearing Care; Christ Church Chineham & One Stop Community Stores Chineham & Bramley; Many local churches have a donation point.**

(Bolded venues are available for 'In-Store Purchases ONLY').

Basingstoke Foodbank: We heard recently, the good news that the new premises at Houndmills have been secured for the next two years. The Foodbank has been able to purchase a large commercial refrigerator, which means we can now store fresh fruit and vegetables, and are now able to provide fresh bread, eggs, fruit and veg in every food parcel. The address can be found in previous newsletters, postcode is: RG21 6XG. At present there is no process in place for transfer of donations from Trinity to the new site, **please do not leave donations at Trinity.** Thanks, **Tony Pitt**

* * * * *

At present, at 25.04.21

Our Foodbank is –

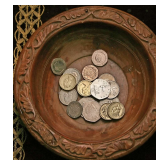
Very Short of:

- Deodorant – Male & Female
- UHT Fruit Juice
- Tinned Dog Food
- Bags for Life

We have plenty of:

- Hot Cereals
- Baked Beans
- Biscuits
- Rice
- Pasta
- Soup
- Tea, Fruit Teas
- Tinned Fish
- Kidney Beans & Other tins of pulses

Trinity Collections



As you will expect, Trinity's income has been severely reduced over the past six months. This is partly because hirers have had to stop meeting, but also because without services in Church the collections have stopped. Nevertheless, much of our expenditure has continued – almost half of our outgoings go to the Circuit to pay for, among other things but to a major extent, the Circuit staff, both ordained and lay.

We would like to express our thanks to those who contribute by Standing Order, and those who have made contact to continue their regular giving via monthly envelopes. We would like to remind you all that there are a number of ways that you can contribute financially to God's work at Trinity and we would particularly welcome any donations at this time.

If you need more information as to how you can give to Trinity, please contact:

David Gunton (Treasurer) – david@gunton.org or 01256-352342 or

Tony Pitt (Gift Aid & Envelope Secretary) – organista@btinternet.com or

☎: 01256-816314.

The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham on the Challenge of Commitment

We Chose to Go to the Moon

On 25 May 1961, President John F Kennedy announced to Congress that the United States 'should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth.'

This reflected the United States' desire to catch up with the Soviet Union in the space race. Although an extremely challenging goal, it was finally achieved on 20 July 1969, when Apollo 11 commander Neil Armstrong stepped on to the Moon's surface.

Such a challenging mission required commitment and sacrifice from many people.

What is our mandate, as the people of God in today's world? What challenge have we been entrusted with by God that requires our absolute commitment and sacrifice in these difficult days? When Jesus ascended into heaven, His last words to His disciples were significant: 'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' (Acts 1:8).

Our mission is to be witnesses for Jesus, making Him known in our workplaces, to our families and friends, as well as the wider community. A credible witness speaks of what they know personally. What is my story of how Jesus has changed my life?

However, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower our witness: 'you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you' (1:8). The Spirit enables us to display the fruit of Jesus' character and gifts us to be effective witnesses.

'We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard' (JFK, 12 September, 1962 at Rice University).

Parish Pump

The Travellers

They travelled together sad and forlorn
With all of their dreams shattered and torn,
It started so well, their hopes were high
Never to guess that He would die.

The Man joined the two as they walked along,
He asked why their faces were sad and long,
'Have you not heard' disbelieving they cried
'How the One we followed was crucified?'

Opening the scriptures He began to unfold
How the Christ should suffer as written of old,
It was not a disaster, but all of God's plan
That one should come as Redeemer of man.

They listened enraptured as slowly they saw
The purpose of God revealed in the Law
The Prophets and Psalms, it's all about Him
The One who should come and rescue from sin.

O that eyes should be opened and scripture made
plain,

To see Christ in its pages again and again,
That just like the travellers I too should see
The Master, the Saviour dying for me.

by Megan Carter (Parish Pump)

Famine may be on the way

That is the stark warning of the Disasters Emergency Committee coalition of UK aid agencies, who says that the economic devastation caused by the pandemic is leading to increasing hunger in poorer countries. Thousands are likely to die this year as the knock-on effect of Covid-19 worldwide has left millions less able to afford food. South Sudan & Yemen are already on the brink of famine, and Afghanistan & Democratic Republic of the Congo are also in deep trouble.

Just at a time when Covid-19 and wars have crippled the economic and health systems of many countries, humanitarian funding has dropped as donor countries also struggle. Saleh Saeed, the committee's chief executive, explained: *"People living in places made perilous by conflict, violence and climate disasters are coping as best they can, but the odds are stacked against them. The knock-on effects of the pandemic have crippled economies, making the world's poorest people even poorer."* (Parish Pump)

Amnesty International Celebrates 60 years

Amnesty International was founded in London 60 years ago, on 28 May 1961.

A non-governmental organisation with its headquarters in the United Kingdom, Amnesty International focuses on human rights and is believed to have more than seven million members and supporters around the world. It was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977 for its "defence of human dignity against torture".

Amnesty came together following the publication of an article in *The Observer*, 'The Forgotten Prisoners', by Peter Benenson, a Jewish lawyer whose mother Flora Benenson was Russian. His father Harold Solomon was British, but he died when Peter was nine. Peter, who was tutored by W H Auden and went to Eton and Balliol, took his mother's name much later as a tribute to his grandfather, a gold tycoon.

With a group of lawyers and as a member of the Labour Party he founded **Justice**, the influential human rights and law reform organisation, in 1957, but the following year he fell ill and moved to Italy to convalesce, where he converted to Roman Catholicism.

Amnesty campaigns to put pressure on governments where human rights abuse takes pace. It considers capital punishment to be "the ultimate, irreversible denial of human rights."

by Tim Lenton, Parish Pump

The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham Considers how the Holy Spirit can Change our Lives

Pentecost

The celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the Church, as we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?

God's Promise:

The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised' (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

God's Power:

'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but all are included, and nobody is excluded from this experience.

God's Purpose:

The disciples 'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.' (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own 'native language' (lit: dialect, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives and it's the Spirit who translates our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3,000 people were added to the church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

'Let the Church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him' (Andrew Murray).

Parish Pump

Comfortable Words – A Call to Restoration

Nine reflections on Isaiah to bring Hope in Challenging Times

by Stephen Croft, BRF, £7.99

'Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God...'. Through nine reflections Steven Croft, Bishop of Oxford, examines what these 'comfortable words' have to say to us.

The prophet sings of love and forgiveness, of new hope and strength in God, to rekindle courage in the hearts of God's people. The prophet sings of a new kind of leadership, based on humility and gentleness. The prophet sings to tell us not to be afraid even in the face of death. These are comfortable words the whole world needs to hear afresh in this season. Each reflection begins with a passage of scripture taken from Isaiah 40—55: the song of an unnamed prophet who sings at the end of the exile to call God's people home.

100 Years of the British Legion



One hundred years ago, on 15 May 1921, the British Legion was founded in the aftermath of the First World War, to provide support to veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependants.

It was created at a time when two million people were unemployed. More than six million had served in the war: of those who came back, 1.75 million had suffered some kind of disability, and half of those were disabled permanently.

Four organisations came together at the instigation of Lancastrian Lance Bombardier Tom Lister, who was angered at the Government's unwillingness to help, and Field Marshal Earl Haig, who had been Commander in Chief of the British Forces. The Legion campaigned for fair treatment of those who had given everything for their country, and it continues this work today.

In 1922, the Legion's poppy factory opened in the Old Kent Road, London, with 40 disabled men manufacturing 1000 poppies a week. The first Poppy Day was held that same year. The Festival of Remembrance began in 1927, and the Legion became 'Royal' in 1971, 50 years ago – on its Golden Anniversary.

At first membership of the Legion was confined to ex-Service personnel, but it was expanded to include serving members of the Forces in 1981.

by Tim Lenton (Parish Pump)

Mea Culpa

A group of lads took a trip to France and decided to attend Mass in a small town, even though none of them understood French. They managed to stand, kneel and sit when the rest of the congregation did, so it wouldn't be obvious they were tourists. At one point, the priest spoke and the man sitting next to them stood up, so they got up, too. The entire congregation broke into hearty laughter.

After the service they approached the priest, who spoke English, and asked him what had been so funny. The priest said he had announced a birth in the parish and had asked the father to stand up.

* * * * *

What did I do with the car?



As I left a meeting at our church, I could not find my car keys.

They were not in my pockets. They were not in the church. Then I thought – I've left them in the car! As I burst through the doors of the church, my heart sank: the church car park was empty.

With a heavy heart I called the police, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the really difficult call: "Darling," I began (I always call her 'darling' at moments like this). "Darling, I have left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen."

There was a little gasp. "You did not *have the car*. I dropped you off. Remember?"

My heart sang as relief flooded through me. "Of course! Thank God! Well, come get me quick – I am already running late... what is keeping you?"

My wife replied with ominous calm: "What's keeping me? I'll tell you what's keeping me.

The police are here. They think I've stolen our car..."

**: Tony Horsfall Considers what Happens when you have
No Courage Left
Being Brave?**

Some time ago I was helping my grandson George into his car seat in the back of my car, when I accidentally banged his head. He started to cry. 'Come on, George, be brave,' I said.

'But I don't want to be brave,' he objected.

I guess we all know that feeling. Sometimes life is hard, and we know we have a need for courage, but somehow, we just don't want to be brave. We would rather give in, surrender to the difficulties, and wallow in self-pity.

The Bible seems to constantly exhort us to be brave, to be strong, to take heart, to be courageous. And life during a pandemic certainly calls for us to make a courageous response. But occasionally we may feel overwhelmed and ready to give in or give up.

Perhaps you are reading this at just such a moment. Maybe this comes as a message to you from God so that you do not lose heart. He knows you, and He sees your situation. And He speaks to encourage you, as He did to the church at Philadelphia: 'I know that you have little strength' (*Revelation 3:8*).

He is the compassionate and understanding God who draws alongside us, to give strength to the weary and power to the weak (*Isaiah 40:29*). You don't have to do anything, simply turn to Him in your need and ask for help.

You will discover, as the apostle Paul did, that when you are weak, then you are strong. His power will be demonstrated through your weakness. You can do whatever is required of you because He will give you strength.

Parish Pump

Shoemakers Christian Bookshop, Newbury

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And may Romans 8:37-39 encourage us all.

For the Young and not so Young

PUZ?LES

Crossword

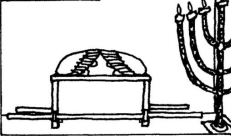
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 4:1-10, 5:1- 7:1

God gave Moses two stone slabs with His laws for the Jews on them. They were kept in a special chest, the Ark, and carried with them

When the Jews got to Israel, the Ark was kept at Shiloh.



The Jews did not keep God's laws so He let the Philistines attack and defeat them.



The Jews took the Ark into battle with them to make God help them win.



But the Philistines won. They took the Ark to their city of Ashdod and put it in the temple of their god Dagon.



The next day they found Dagon's statue face down.



The next day it was over again and its head and hands had broken off.



Then the people became covered in sores.



They moved the Ark to the city of Gath.



They were going to move the Ark to Ekron, but the people there wouldn't let them.



So they put the Ark on a new cart with a gift of gold.



At Bethshemesh, people harvesting saw the Ark.

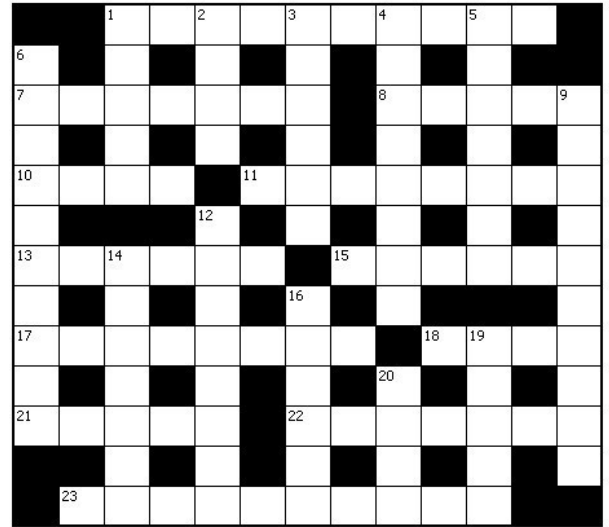


But some treated it without respect and died.

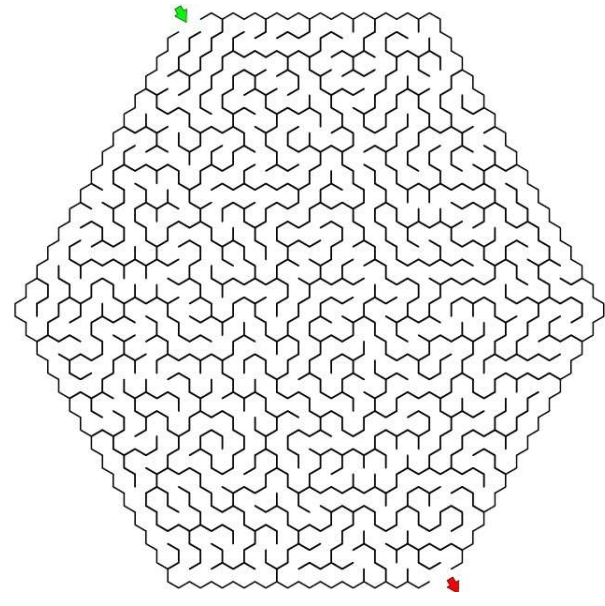
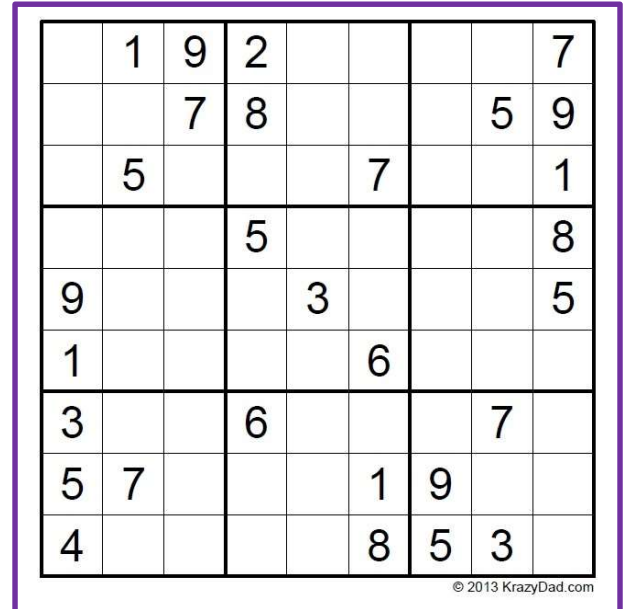


Crossword Clues – Across

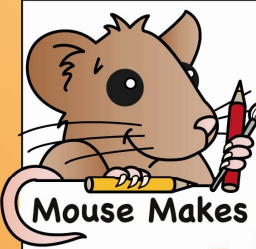
- 1 Sense of right and wrong (1 Corinthians 8:7) (10)
- 7 Coming (John 11:17) (7)
- 8 'All I have is — , and all you have is mine' (John 17:10) (5)
- 10 Smarten (Acts 9:34) (4)
- 11 Hold back (Job 9:13) (8)
- 13 Member of the Society of Friends (6)
- 15 At aque (anag.) (6)
- 17 Citizen of the Greek capital (8)
- 18 So be it (Galatians 6:18) (4)
- 21 Twentieth-century poet and dramatist who wrote *Murder in the Cathedral*, T.S. — (5)
- 22 Empowers (Philippians 3:21) (7)
- 23 Imposing (1 Samuel 9:2) (10)



Sudoku



It's important for parents to live the same things they teach – Anon



Mouse Makes

Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.

The Holy Spirit
V S E I L
with us and in us.

The Holy Spirit helps us to
W K N O
we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit
H C T S E E A
us about God.

The Holy Spirit
K P E S S A
God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit
P H L S E
us to tell others about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we
A Y P R

On the day of PENTECOST the disciples were gathered together in one place...
What sound did they hear?
Acts 2:2

What did they see?
Acts 2:3

What filled them?
Acts 2:4

How did they speak?
Acts 2:4

What did the crowd hear?
Acts 2:6

Which countries had they come from?
Acts 2:9

What was their reaction?
Acts 2:12-13

Who explained what was happening? What did he say?
Acts 2:14-36

How many people were baptised that day?
Acts 2:41

Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet and see what the Holy Spirit produces in us:

KPZ
IVNJMJUZ
TFMG DPOUSPM
GBJUIGVMOFTT
LJOEOFTT
QBUJFODF
QFBDF
MPWF
HPPEOFTT

Galatians 5:22

What is the work of the Holy Spirit? What does He do?
Fill in the missing letters.

TEAC _ ES
COMF _ RTS
REVEA _ S
IN _ OU
TRAN _ FORMS
HEL _ S
GU _ DES
GENEWS
CONV _ CTS
SANC _ IFIES

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

**Wordsearch Above – Clues:
Rogation Sunday**

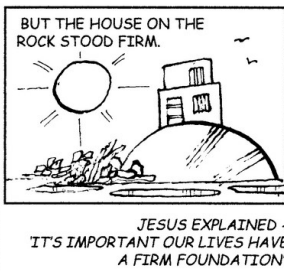
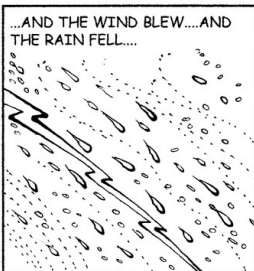
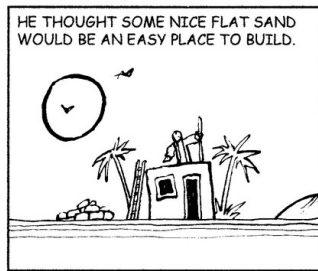
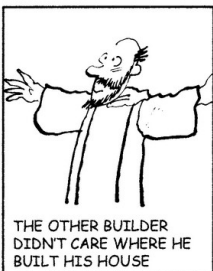
The first Sunday in May is Rogation Sunday when many parishes still ‘beat the bounds’. Rogation means an asking of God – for blessing on the seed and land. The practice began with the Romans, who processed around the cornfields each Spring, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, in order to get rid of evil. About 465 AD the Western world was suffering from earthquake and storm. Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields. Thus ‘beating the bounds’ became a Christian ceremonial. It arrived in England early in the eighth century. Each Spring, led by the priest, a little party from the parish would set out with a Cross to trace the boundaries of the parish. They’d implore God to keep their corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to harvest. In the days when maps were scarce, ‘beating the bounds’ helped remind everyone just where the boundaries were. Do you know yours today?

Sunday	Processed	Seed
May	Cornfields	Land
Rogation	Spring	Romans
Beat	Storm	Harvest
Bounds	Prayer	Maps
Asking	Cross	Earthquake
Blessing	Crops	Boundaries

Crossword Clues – Down

- 1 Healed (*Luke 7:21*) (5)
- 2 Central space in a church (4)
- 3 Co-founder of Spring Harvest and General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance 1983–97, Clive — (6)
- 4 Moses killed one when he saw him beating a Hebrew labourer (*Exodus 2:12*) (8)
- 5 Bravery (*Acts 4:13*) (7)
- 6 It interrupted Paul and Silas singing hymns in a Philippian jail (*Acts 16:26*) (10)
- 9 Transgression (*Psalms 36:1*) (10)
- 12 Irish province in which Dublin is situated (8)
- 14 Same hit (anag.) (7)
- 16 ‘The Spirit of God was hovering over the — ’ (*Genesis 1:2*) (6)
- 19 Author of the immortal stories of Winnie the Pooh, A. A. — (5)
- 20 Cab (4)

**Prayer is the very life-breath of true
Christianity – J C Ryle**



The Puppies

A client brought a litter of Golden Retriever puppies to the local veterinary clinic for inoculations and worming. As the look-alike pups tumbled over and under one another in their box, the experienced vet realised it would be difficult to tell which had been treated and which hadn't. So, the vet turned on the water tap, wet her fingers and gently moistened each dog's head as she finished giving it the necessary shots.

After the fourth puppy, the vet noticed her hitherto talkative client had grown silent and was looking rather reverent. As the animal doctor sprinkled the last pup's head, the owner leaned forward and whispered, "Thank you so much. I hadn't realised you baptised them, too."

* * * * *

Thank God for what you have,
TRUST GOD for what you need –
Anon

* * * * *

Blessed are the peacemakers; they
 will never be unemployed – *Anon*

**Freedom comes by filling your mind with
 God's thoughts – Erwin Lutzer**

How to stay safe this Spring

1. Avoid riding in automobiles. They are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home. 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or pavements. 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water. 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in Hospitals. So, above all else, *avoid hospitals.*

BUT:

You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!

A Bible study is safe, too. In fact, the percentage of deaths during Bible study is not even .001%...

So, attend Church, and read your Bible – IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

w	c	k	p	e	o	p	l	e	l	a	l
g	d	e	u	w	h	a	n	d	s	e	h
m	g	e	l	o	t	e	m	p	l	e	e
c	a	p	l	e	s	a	f	e	u	k	a
h	t	i	i	j	b	c	a	t	r	r	d
e	h	n	n	z	l	r	a	a	e	o	q
s	a	g	g	s	s	t	a	l	s	n	v
t	s	v	h	i	s	m	x	t	p	s	e
p	h	i	l	i	s	t	i	n	e	s	c
b	d	a	g	o	n	g	j	s	c	d	o
s	o	r	e	s	f	m	o	u	t	r	w
i	d	c	a	r	t	m	s	d	b	g	s

Puzzle Pages Solutions

Crossword Solution:

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

Sudoku Solution

8	1	9	2	6	5	3	4	7
6	4	7	8	1	3	2	5	9
2	5	3	4	9	7	8	6	1
7	3	4	5	2	9	6	1	8
9	8	6	1	3	4	7	2	5
1	2	5	7	8	6	4	9	3
3	9	8	6	5	2	1	7	4
5	7	2	3	4	1	9	8	6
4	6	1	9	7	8	5	3	2

Shiloh	Moses	Ekron
Israel	Philistines	pulling
God	temple	Ark
sores	keeping	cows
Gath	head	statue
safe	Dagon	celebrate
hands	cart	respect
Ashdod	chest	people

Lord, as this day unfolds, help me to remember that you are in company with me.

May I flourish through what you say to me in those I meet.

Strengthen me to share what I know of you in challenging and helpful ways.

Remind me to own and rejoice in all that is good.

Encourage me when the going is tough.

Nurture me to develop the creative gifts you have given me.

May others be touched by your blessing through what I say and do and, in all things, may your name be glorified.

by Ward Jones, Chair of Bristol District.

Both these prayers are taken from the Methodist Prayer Handbook, 'Look to Christ', 2004 – 2005

* * * * *

Laughter is God's sunshine – Anon

The mist enfolds the hills in its mantle: embrace us in your love, O Lord.

The rain washes the rocks and leaves: cleanse us in your love, O Lord.

The beck tumbles down to the valley: direct us in your love, O Lord.

The mountain peaks stand firm: establish us in your love, O Lord.

The rowan tree clings to the side of the gill: root us in your love, O Lord.

The night veils the fells in darkness: hide us in your love, O Lord

by John Biggs, Ambleside