



St Andrew's Trinity E-News



Autumn 25 Issue

Email: StAndrews-Trinity@outlook.com

Sept (Quarterly)



**Our Minister is:
Revd Claire Simpson**

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email:

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**St Andrew's Trinity Church
worship at St Andrew's
Centre, South Ham,
Basingstoke, RG22 6ER**

**St Andrew's Trinity Website
can be reached at:**

**[https://e-voice.org.uk/
standrewstrinitymc/](https://e-voice.org.uk/standrewstrinitymc/)**

(use control & click)

**St Andrew's Trinity
'Quarterly' E-News:**

**Deadline: Dec 25 Issue:
Sunday 16 Nov 2025**

I love receiving your items,
please keep them coming.

Thank you for all your
support. Items can be
phoned, posted, emailed or
given to me. **Thank you,**
Hazel, Ed

(☎: 01256-461375) email:

hazel@basingstokecircuit.net

16B Portacre Rise, B/S, RG21 8YQ

**Next Church Council
Monday 3 Nov, 2 pm**

**CLOCKS
go back**

Sunday 26 October

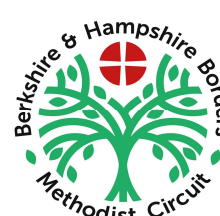


Inside this Issue

2	Pastoral Letter, Steve Smith
3 - 4	Sunday Services
5	Karibuni Children, Trinity Circle, 9 Sept
6	Harvest Lunch & Harvest Service
7	Community Food Link & B/S Foodbank
8 - 9	Retreat at Silchester
10	Technology, Margaret
10	British Food Fortnight
11	New Beginnings
12-13	Church Council Mins
15	Around our Circuit
16	What's On at St Andrew's Trinity
18-19	B/S Chaplaincy News
21	Diary Dates
22	Mug & Biscuit
23	Silchester Retreats
24	Harvest Theme
24	Prayers
25	Premier Christian Radio
26 - 28	Puzzle Pages

Circuit Website:

www.bhbcircuit.org.uk



**Part of
Berkshire
Hampshire
Borders
Methodist
Circuit**

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us; open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Published by St Andrew's Trinity Methodist Church

September 2025

Dear Friends,

Autumn is a special time, one for harvest, thanksgiving and preparation for a new year ahead.

For Angela and I, it has been a time when the apples on our tree have been falling every day coupled with a search to collect as many as are viable for our own use and to share with friends and neighbours.

The consequences of not picking up all the fallen fruit is that those missed apples can and will try to produce new trees! We found a new tree a couple of years ago, near a boundary wall, that we let grow to see if it would produce fruit. Last year we saw some small apples which didn't mature, but this year the tree produced more fruit and we discovered it was a plum tree, not apple!

Thinking of fruit led me to think about our own personal harvest, that of 'words' which can also deliver different types of fruit depending on our choice of words and how we use and deliver them in our conversations with others.

Words such as those conveying love, hate, empathy, understanding, kindness, respect, welcome, rejection, and sympathy all produce a harvest in ourselves and in others.

Stop the boats! Go Home! Protect our children! All speak volumes about our lack of love for all our neighbours.

If this is left unchallenged, then we only need to look to America and the treatment of 'illegal' migrants who are being put into detention camps, deprived of all civil liberties, no right of appeal and / or deported to be imprisoned in another country with a poor human rights record!

Look also at how Israel is treating the peoples of Gaza in their quest to 'defeat' Hamas, using constant missile and drone attacks on a civilian population, using starvation as a weapon by preventing access to the many hundreds of aid trucks

waiting at the border crossing points!

Words are powerful, they hurt when used in anger or hatred or spite. They provoke reactions from people who don't fully understand the consequences of those words, both for themselves and for those to whom they are directed.

The term 'Fake News!' has become a rallying cry by those wanting to convince the world and their own people of the lies they want to perpetuate.

The consequences can be seen openly around the world; in the USA; and with the conflict between Russia & Ukraine – call your neighbour a Nazi and your actions are 'justified' (in your own mind).

George Currie Martin wrote these words:

Your words to me are life and health;
They fortify my soul,
Enable, guide, and teach my heart
To reach its perfect goal.

Your words to me are light and truth;
From day to day they show
Their wisdom, passing earthly lore,
As in their truth I grow.

Your words to me are full of joy,
Of beauty, peace, and grace;
From them I learn your blessed will,
Through them I see your face.

Your words are perfected in One,
Yourself, the living Word;
Within my heart your image print
In clearest lines, O Lord.

Singing the Faith 164

George was born in Scotland in 1865 and died in France in 1937 just before WWII.

God bless and keep you!

Steve Smith

- 200 years ago, on 27 Sept 1825 the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.



Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson

**Sunday Worship at St Andrew's Trinity
and our Basingstoke Churches –**

Plan for Worship: Sept to November 2025

Enquiries – Joint Senior Stewards:

Diane Bath ☎: 01256 320429 or email dianeath51@gmail.com

Linda Hoe ☎: 01256 417219 or email lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk

* * * * *



The Plan is Sometimes Subject to Change:

**On 26 October, Revd Claire Simpson will now be at St Andrew's Trinity, and
Revd Martin Beukes will be at Church of the Living Stream.**

Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, Sept 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)

Dates	7 Sept	14 Sept	21 Sept	28 Sept
St Andrew's Trinity 10.30 am 2.30 pm	Revd Claire Simpson, HC and Baptism	Mr Symon Turner, Parade JAM at 2.30 pm	Mrs Anne Rowe	Prof Tony Bell, Harvest Festival
Church of L Stream 10.30 am	Revd Andy Fitchet	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Martin Beukes	Mr Jonathan Skeet
Oakley 10.30 am	Mrs Linda Hoe	Mr Chris Marsh	Revd David Jenkins, HC / HF	Mrs Helen Watson (LP)
Oakridge 10.30 am	Revd Barbara McIntivey, HC	Mr Mike Smith	Mrs Judith Cole	LA
Old Basing 10.30 am	Mrs Helen Watson (LP)	LA	Revd Claire Simpson, HC/Gift Service	Revd Barbara McIntivey, HF

Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, October 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)

Dates	5 October	12 October	19 October	26 October
St Andrew's Trinity 10.30 am 2.30 pm	Revd Andy Fitchet, HC	LA JAM at 2.30 pm	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Claire Simpson, GCM
Church of L Stream 10.30 am	LA	Prof Tony Bell	Mr Neil Graham	Revd Martin Beukes
Oakley 10.30 am	LA	Mr Symon Turner	Revd Barbara McIntivey, HC	Mrs Rosie Greenhaigh
Oakridge 10.30 am	Revd Claire Simpson, HC	Revd Andy Fitchet	Mrs Paddy Jose	LA
Old Basing 10.30 am	LA	Joint Service at Oakridge	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Lesley Martin, HC

- **Smart car** – A clergy friend of mine bought a new car that sported an on-board computer. On Sunday morning he got into the car to drive to church, and the digital display lit up. Glancing at the readout, he chuckled at the announcement: **"Time for service."**

Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Circuit Plan, Nov 2025 (B/Stoke Churches)

Dates	2 Nov	9 Nov, Remembrance	16 Nov	23 Nov	30 Nov Advent Sunday
St Andrew's Trinity 10.30 am 2.30 pm	Revd Jenny Dowding, HC	Mr Mike Smith, Remembrance, Parade JAM at 2.30 pm	Revd Claire Simpson 3 pm Service to Remember 'Loved Ones'	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Barbara McIntivey
Church of L Stream 10.30 am	LA	Mrs Anne Rowe, Remembrance	Mr Peter Frank	Mrs Helen Watson	Revd Claire Simpson
Oakley 10.30 am	Revd Claire Simpson	Mrs Judith Cole, Remembrance	Revd Dr Ruth Midcalf, HC / Gift Service	LA	Mr Neil Graham
Oakridge 10.30 am	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Rachel Borgars, HC, Remembrance	Prof Tony Bell	LA	Revd Lesley Martin
Old Basing 10.30 am	Mrs Helen Watson, (LP)	Joint Service at Oakridge, Rembr	Mrs Rosie Greenhaigh	Revd David Jenkins, HC	Mr Nick Klingaman

PRAYING & LISTENING – Sunday Mornings after the Service:

Anyone wearing this badge will be available to listen & pray quietly with you at the back of the church after the service.

**Enjoy Fellowship & Refreshments after Morning Worship**

Our Thanks to all who serve refreshments Sundays & Weekdays in the 'Mug & Biscuit'.



(More Volunteers always welcome, Sundays or weekdays.
If you can help, have a word with **Linda**, thank you).

**A Prayer Request Book**

Is available each Sunday and prayers will be included in the 'Intercessions'. Please ensure you have permission from the person you would like prayed for. **Diane Bath**

**'A Change to our St Andrew's Trinity E-News Magazine'**

From September 2025, the **E-News will be Quarterly, 4 issues** a year (*instead of 10 as previously*), coming out in *September – Autumn, December – Winter, March – Spring & June – Summer*, coinciding with the Circuit Plan for Sunday services and at the same time as the St Andrew's Trinity Flyer.

If anyone would be interested in taking on the job of '*Collating, Editing, E-mailing & Printing the Magazine*', please let us know, we would love to hear from you. Thank you for your continued support, **Hazel, Ed**

Annual Interfaith Peace Walk – Sunday 14 September, 1.15 pm – 3.45 pm

Starts from Basingstoke Fire Station, RG22 6PD & Concludes at the Ridgeway Centre, Buckskin, RG22 5BN where light refreshments will be served. **OPEN** to all members of the public. Parking available at the Leisure Centre opposite the Fire Station.



Karibuni Children

Trinity Circle - 9th September 7.30pm at St Andrew's Trinity

At our September meeting we will be welcoming representatives of Karibuni Children a charity set up in the 1990's by Corinne Murphy, daughter of the Revd Bill & Joy Murphy (previous Minister at St Andrew's).

Come along and hear about the continuing work of this charity supporting children and helping to transform young Kenyan lives. For more information visit: karibuni.org.uk

There will be a stall selling Karibuni merchandise.

Everyone is welcome, we look forward to seeing you.

MAYC London Weekends

Replying to Yvonne's article about '**had anyone been to the MAYC event in London?**'

I went with our Methodist church youth club from Congresbury in Somerset in 1963.

We were hosted by Neasden's Methodist church in North London, where we were welcomed by different families.

Through this I met my friend Sue who became a good friend over the years.

Lots of memories of MAYC friends and youth club memories.

*'One more step along the world I go
One more step along the world I go
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you'.*

Angie Smith



Celebrating 30 years of Transforming Young Kenyan Lives

Join us for Trinity Circle's September meeting to learn about our charity, founded by Corinne Murphy, daughter of the Revd Bill & Joy Murphy (previous Minister at St Andrew's)

St Andrew's Trinity
Western Way,
South Ham,
Basingstoke RG22 6ER

Tuesday
9th September 2025

7:30pm

Everyone is welcome - No ticket necessary

Handmade Kenyan merchandise will be available



Call 01296 614887
www.karibuni.org.uk

- 70 years ago, on 22 Sept 1955, Britain's 1st independent TV channel launched. ITV ended BBC's monopoly.

* * * *

- 70 years ago, on 4 Sept 1955 Kenneth Kendall became the 1st newsreader to appear on screen in the UK, reading the *BBC Television News*.

- 70 years ago, on 26th Sept 1955 Bird's Eye frozen fish fingers went on sale in the UK.



Community Harvest Lunch.

September 27th 2025
1.00 p.m.

Food choice:
Cottage Pie

Fruit crumble and custard

Vegetarian option available if
advised at time of booking.

Tickets available from 7th
September and during Mug and
Biscuit opening hours.

There is no charge, but donations
will be gratefully accepted



We will be Celebrating our Harvest Weekend on 27 – 28 September

During Sunday worship there will be two opportunities to **Support Local Initiatives** as part of our **Harvest Thanksgiving**:

- A money collection for the Food Bank
- Items for the Community Food link

For the **Community Food Link** we have been asked for the following specific items:

- Jars of instant coffee
- Tins of meat, tuna & baked beans
- Toiletries – toilet rolls, washing machine pods, toothpaste, toothbrushes & female sanitary products

Thank you





TAKING A BITE OUT OF HUNGER

You will see from the opposite page, **The Community Food Link (Basingstoke) and the Basingstoke Food Bank** are two of the Local Initiatives that we will be supporting through our Harvest Giving this year. Here is a little information about each of them:

Community Food Link (Basingstoke)

In the UK, 1 in 3 children are living in poverty and an estimated 14 million people, one fifth of the nation's population, are suffering in 'impossible situations' where paying bills and putting food on the table can be incredibly difficult. *

Here at the Community Food Link based in Basingstoke, we collect fresh, nutritious food that cannot be sold from our partner supermarkets and our volunteers sort and repack it.

Then we deliver it to our distribution partners, charities, schools and play groups so they can help the most vulnerable in our society by giving them wholesome and healthy food for themselves and their families.

For more information download: Our [brochure](#), Our latest [newsletter](#). Email contact@bcfd.org.uk if you wish to receive our newsletter by email.

* Source: Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2018

For Distribution Partners – charities@bcfd.org.uk

For Volunteers and Supporters – volunteers@bcfd.org.uk

For Supermarket Partners – suppliers@bcfd.org.uk

To Get Involved – Donations – donations@bcfd.org.uk

For our Website – <https://bcfd.org.uk/>

**'Control & Click' on
any of the items in
Blue to open the item.**



The Basingstoke Foodbank produce regular newsletters '**Foodbytes**' with all the up-to-date info about the Foodbank.

The latest, August issue, covers:

School Holiday Support; Stats; ASDA Food Drive Success; Supporting Basingstoke Foodbank;

Currently Most Needed; Harvest; Tesco Prepacked Bags; Allotments; Celebrating our Community Recognition; Community Project Award; Charity Champion Award; Disability Awareness Day Event; Stay Connected with Us!

The **Stats** for May – July 2025 show: Food Received – 14.8 Tons; Food Distributed: 16.4 Tons, **Supporting 1,560 people**. **ASDA** customers generously supported the ASDA food drive in June donating a total of 48 crates of food & essential items, approximately 1,063 meals. **TESCO**, **Chineham** continued to support the Foodbank by offering prepacked donation bags for customers to purchase until the end of August. The Foodbank joined many other local charities & support agencies in The Malls at the Disability Forum's Disability Awareness Day Event on 27 June, chatting to both shoppers & agencies on other stalls about all that we could offer to help make ends meet.

Check out our Website & Catch Up with our news: <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/>

Just Peace, Becoming Peacemakers

August Silchester Retreat

Are you prepared to be a Peacemaker? Well Our Lord is guiding us so that we can be. "... seek peace and pursue it" Psalm 34:14. Also refer to the Beatitudes, "**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.**"

We live in a World today that is torn by war and conflict more so now than at any time since the Second World War. It is also the Anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima killing more than 140,00 people, and many thousands more due to radiation fall out in the following generations. Today we are on the brink of further nuclear war, and must do all we can under the guidance and authority of the Holy Spirit to prevent this ever happening again.

Our August Retreat at Silchester Methodist Church led by Rev Angela Webb and Rev John Banks explored 'Just Peace, Becoming Peacemakers', giving us the opportunity to further develop our abilities as Peacemakers in today's fractured World.

We were given the opportunity in our quiet meditation time to read and take notes from a number of books and articles exploring peace and peacemakers both past and present, and giving us guidance in our lives today. I now see peacemaking as a pyramid structure at a number of different levels where we have conflicts and disagreements that all need resolving. We have: 1) Family and close friends, 2) Our local community which might well include our church, 3) Our Nation where we have disagreements in our Government, or between our various counties, ethnic groups or religious faiths, and the lastly 4) Our Nation in the International community in the World as a whole. Resolution of conflict at each level all contribute to achieving Peace in the World today.

However before we can become effective Peacemakers we need to look closely at ourselves, and our inner attitudes. We must all see that our inner attitudes are often harsh, attacking and judgemental. Our ego seems to find its energy by having something to oppose, fix or change. When our mind can judge something to be inferior we feel superior. We need to, and must, recognise our constant tendency towards negating reality, resisting and opposing it in our minds. In short to be effective the Peacemaker must be completely unbiassed. This can only be achieved by obedience to "**Love one another, as I have loved you**", John 13:34. In practical terms this means resisting these tendencies to judge others by reaching out to the Holy Spirit within us to give us the strength to do so. "*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will*", Romans 12:2.

We also had the opportunity to walk in the adjacent Silchester Common on this beautiful Summer day and walk amongst the trees, heathland and small ponds with none of the distractions of daily life, and to listen to the birdsong around us as we walked and meditated. I took the opportunity to take this walk to seek some Peace. It was there I met this little butterfly nestled in a gorse bush (see picture) relaxed and at peace with himself in "his World". I'm sure he sensed my presence and was at ease with it, as I was with his.

I clearly saw then that it was quite possible for we two of totally different species and lifestyles to live in peace and harmony with one another, respecting each other in our common World. We left each other in Peace.

I asked myself then why can't we humans today from different ethnic groups, cultures, and indeed Nations do likewise and live in Peace, and not be continually in conflict?

cont'd...

Just Peace, Becoming Peacemakers (cont'd)

I came away from the Retreat with a stronger understanding of what Peacemaking is about, and that we should strengthen our relationship with the Holy Spirit in renewing our minds so that we are better able to serve God's Will as Peacemakers.

Where will you be a Peacemaker?

The next **Retreat at Ilchester** this year is
Saturday 4th October, Come to Me ...

An invitation to take time to learn the rhythms of Grace. Why not come along?

Martin Frost, 6 August 2025



Basingstoke Foodbank's Christmas Hamper Project



Foodbank need to recruit 2 – 4 **volunteer supervisors** based at Festival Place from 1st to 19th Dec (excluding weekends) when we'll be welcoming small groups of 4 – 6 volunteers morning & afternoon to pack hampers. If you're happy to be trained up to explain what's needed to a small group of enthusiastic packers each morning/afternoon, & liaise with our van drivers who collect packed hampers daily for home deliveries, contact myself or Debbie Dooley to find out more. You will need to be fairly organised & able to oversee activities to ensure things run smoothly. Busy, festive & fun!

You need to be able to offer a number of mornings/afternoons (9am – 1.30pm or 1pm – 5pm). Ideally we'd love a small number of supervisors to job share mornings/afternoons. There's plenty of training & support available & you can shadow people initially who have done this role before. If you'd like to chat it through with Debbie or myself, please phone or email us! *NB: Debbie has been one of our project & pop-up shop co-ordinators for several years. 900 hampers were hand delivered last year!*

Paula, Paula Vallance, Development Manager

☎: 07941 336464 and ☎: 07722 673645

basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

facebook.com/basingstokefoodbank

BStoke Foodbank, Units 63-64 Tempus Business Centre, Kingsclere Road, RG21 6XG

Registered Charity in
England & Wales 1154319

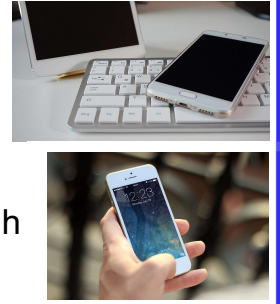
Did you Spot many Butterflies this past Summer? (PP)

The wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation is deeply worried about our butterflies. Or rather, lack of them. It seems that more than 80 per cent of our species have declined sharply in number since 1970s. Each summer sees the Big Butterfly Count, when the public is encouraged to send in the number of butterflies they have seen over a short period of time. Last year saw the lowest number of butterflies spotted in the count's 14-year history. Even familiar species like the small white, common blue & small tortoiseshell had their worst summer ever. A record number of people saw no butterflies at all. Butterflies have been hit by climate change, use of pesticides & damage to their habitats. The drought this summer has been bad news for their caterpillar offspring, which need growing plants to feed on. So, this autumn, why not plan a happier year for butterflies in 2026? As you prepare your garden for winter, go to <https://www.rhs.org.uk/wildlife/butterflies-in-your-garden> for some ideas of how to make your garden butterfly-friendly.



Technology

How's your technology? An advert on television said, if you have got an 'ology', you are a genius. Well that rules me out straight away. For lots of us technology can be very mysterious. Our comprehension possibly is limited, and we only know a minute amount. Perhaps it is enough for our needs, and we prefer not to delve into its complexity any further.



Technology, when it works, is great, when it doesn't can be inconvenient, and frustrating. One of the most annoying phrases is, computer says no! I confess to being confused by this answer.

My question is, how on earth did we manage before with our pre-computer knowledge? Well, we did. Many things took longer, but our brains were being activated, and our world was so much simpler. We did not expect immediate answers to our questions, but we worked through what we already knew and felt a certain amount of satisfaction when we discovered something new. Now, the internet does it for you, which is useful but does it meet all our needs?

Man has always wanted to discover new things and knowledge is a good thing, but it cannot replace feelings, instincts and faith.

The work of the Holy Spirit in the human heart can reverse all previous intentions, many questions, why am I here? What does life mean? Is there more to life?

The answer is found in God and this is an irrelevant question and answer to many, because they have never felt the need to understand things of a spiritual nature. Not everything is discovered on a computer screen.

Falling in love, cannot be explained, but we know it happens. When it does, it takes over and becomes an all-encompassing feeling. The newly converted Christian displays the same reactions. Caught up by the acceptance of God's spirit and forgiveness, coupled with the amazing gift of love from God. Faith cannot be explained and just accepting that love, transforms lives.

A hymn writer wrote these words. 'The mind cannot show what the heart longs to know.' Head knowledge is fine, but heart knowledge is so much more.

God bless you.

Margaret Garland

British Food Fortnight 2025 – 26 September to 12 October (PP)

Ideas at: <https://www.lovebritishfood.co.uk/british-food-fortnight-2025>



This annual 'celebration' of the diversity & quality of British Food is aiming to be bigger than ever this year, involving restaurants, pubs, schools, universities, care homes, the NHS, even the Houses of Parliament. Why not see what a local restaurant or pub might offer?

Using the English Language..... (PP)

If Lawyers are disbarred and Clergymen defrocked, **doesn't it follow that.....**

Electricians could be delighted, Musicians denoted, Cowboys deranged, Models deposed, and Dry Cleaners depressed? **Likewise**, Bedmakers might be debunked, Bulldozer operators degraded, Organ Donors delivered, Software Engineers detested, and Underwear manufacturers debriefed? And won't all Composers one day decompose?

On a more positive note, perhaps we can hope Politicians will someday be devoted.....

On looking at our Circuit Website today as I'm working on the E-News, <https://www.bhbcircuit.org.uk> I found this lovely prayer in the 'Prayer of the day' slot.

Prayer of the day

A prayer for peace in the world

Peace is a rose.

So lovely, so delicate, so fragrant,
so easily crushed.

Holy God, let peace flower in our
damaged world.

In parched places, let peace take root,
in broken places, let peace send forth
strong shoots,

in barren places, let peace bud and bloom,
that all may see her beauty,
feel her softness,
be overcome by her gentle perfume,
and tend her.

Amen

Please Remember to Pray for:

We are asked to keep all those going through the 'Stationing' process in the coming months, in our prayers.

3rd Basingstoke Boys' Brigade –

If there are any boys with nothing to do on a Friday night we run 2 sessions: 5-8 yr olds, 6.30 pm – 7.45 pm (£2 per boy) and 8-18 yr olds 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm (£3 per boy).

We are happy for any boy to come and see what we do any Friday night but would appreciate a call to let us know you are coming.

Thankyou, Theresa ☎: 01256 329616
(to leave a message)

- It is only with gratitude towards God that life becomes rich – *Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

* * * * *

- Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil – It has no point – *Billy Graham*

by Canon Paul Hardingham New Beginnings (PP)

September is the time of year when we get back to our routines after the summer break. As whole-life disciples (lit: *learners*) we are all called to learn from Jesus and live like Him. God wants us to make a difference in our workplaces and schools, and with family and friends.

As Paul writes:

'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.' (Colossians 3:17).

'WHATEVER you do': God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. Do we believe this? Our lives shouldn't be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which all of our lives are available to Him.

'Whatever YOU do': God wants to use us to share God's love as we serve others around us, wherever we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

'Whatever you DO': We work for God alone, in responding to God's love for us.

How does this perspective make a difference when what we do is hard, unrewarding, or even unappreciated by others?

A man standing on a train platform was asked one day: *'Who are you?'* He replied, *'I am a Christian thinly disguised as an accountant.'* If we were asked the same question ourselves, how would we respond? As disciples of Jesus Christ, our identity is rooted in God and His call upon our lives.

For each of us, September means learning from Jesus about how we might live for Him in the different places we find ourselves.

ST ANDREW'S TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH**ABRIDGED MINUTES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 19 AUGUST 2025 at 7.30pm**

'The Minutes of the Church Council Meeting held on 19 August 2025' are displayed on the Notice Board at the back of the Church.

1. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on the 20 May 2025 had some amendments made before being signed as a true record of that meeting.
2. **Matters Arising:** No matters arising.
3. **Church Council Secretary:** Revd Claire was pleased to announce that Donna L-O. had agreed to replace Barbara J. as Church Council Secretary. Proposed by P Wood and seconded by D Bath. Agreed unanimously. Revd Claire thanked Barbara for her contribution as CC secretary since the two churches had come together as St Andrew's Trinity Methodist Church.
4. **Proposed Redevelopment of South Ham and Buckskin:**
Bob L. gave some background information on the recently formed Action Group, Sovereign Housing and Basingstoke & Deane Council. After discussion, the meeting concluded that there was likely to be a lengthy consultative period and it would be years before anything actually happens, but we should be mindful of the disquiet and uncertainty that speculation has created in the local community.
5. **Property, Lettings, Health & Safety:** Revd Claire thanked Bob L. for his report which had been circulated to all CC members prior to the meeting. Bob mentioned that one of the hirers had reduced their letting from 5 sessions to 4, resulting in a slight loss of lettings income. He also emphasised the importance of all church members being vigilant over the security of our building eg: checking that windows are secured and lights and small items like fans are switched off, when the building is vacated.
6. **Proposed Craft Group:** This new outreach craft initiative proposed by Yvonne H. was discussed as well as our existing Trinity Circle Group. Church Council members agreed to the proposal of creating a Craft Group but a decision has to be made regarding how often and when this group would meet and to avoid clashing with Trinity Circle meetings, particularly as some of their members may have an interest in attending the proposed craft group.
7. **Finance:** The Treasurer had circulated her report and the balance sheet to 31st July 2025. Sarah W. confirmed that our finances were in good shape. Revd Claire mentioned a previous bequest which had been ring-fenced in our accounts for a suitable project. Margaret H. confirmed that Trinity accounts have finally been closed with the Charities Commission.
8. **Reports from Other Groups:**
The Worship Group: had met the previous day and reported that a Baptism was booked in the church diary for September. Plans are in place for the Harvest weekend 27/28th September, with a lunch on the Saturday and on Sunday, harvest donations will be accepted. Full details will be published in the E News.
Angela W. wanted to raise the lack of provision for the significant number of young children which now sit at the back of the church during Sunday worship. She asked if we could provide a small selection of simple self-directed activities of a Christian theme for these children. There was unanimous support for this provision, and Revd Claire asked anyone interested in assisting with this, to talk to Angela W.

Children's/Young People and Families: Louise C. gave some feedback on the *cont'd*

St Andrew's Trinity Church Council Abridged Minutes (cont'd)**8. Reports from Other Groups (cont'd):**

Children's/Young People & Families (continued): Children's Activities Day. This operates on 4 Thursdays in August for children of all ages and their parents, from 10 am – 4 pm. It has had a steady start and Louise encouraged members of the Church to go along to the Mug & Biscuit to have a look at what is going on and perhaps join in the fun in the church area.

3 Generate: Yvonne H. had been busy fundraising and so far over 40 children have signed up. During September there will be more fundraising to enable more children to participate in this Christian event. Yvonne H. has asked everyone to hold 3 Generate and the children in their prayers.

Tech Group: David W. had produced a report which was circulated to CC members. We already have a CCLI licence, which opens up more opportunities for mission. Llyn F. mentioned that we would need an ambient light resisting screen for showing films.

9. Mission: Revd Claire suggested that at the General Church Meeting on 26 October, we make mission as part of our worship, by talking about our mission and beginning a listening exercise. During our service we can add what we are already doing to our MAP (mission action plan). Another aspect was our communication and publicity within, and outside of Church. Communication was fundamental to what we do.

Peter H. spoke about his survey on communication within our Church. He explored in detail who communicated, what they communicated, how they communicated, and where they communicated. The outcome was a proposal to church council that he formed a small group to consider how we can improve our communication. They will subsequently report back to church council members with some recommendations. A general discussion took place, and it was decided that Peter H. and David W. would form a small group to take this forward. Anyone else interested in being part of the group should contact either Peter H. or David W.

10. Safeguarding: Everyone is responsible for safeguarding. Margarat H. talked about the importance of signing up for training sessions as soon as they become available. Re-training is mandatory after 4 years and people should know when they need to sign up to a course. There is Basic training, and Advanced training for those who have already completed the basic training course. Anyone who has to be DBS checked for the job they do then safeguarding training is mandatory. For those who work in the Mug & Biscuit training would be useful but it is not mandatory. Individuals can put themselves forward for basic training.

GDPR: Revd Claire gave an overview of GDPR legal requirements and compliance. We urgently need a person to fill this role in our church, and asked those present to think about this. All the necessary paperwork is available once we find a volunteer.

11. Circuit: Sarah R. asked those present to keep in their prayers all those people involved in Stationing; the churches, the circuit staff, and families. It is a difficult time for everyone as they seek God's will.

12. Any Other Business: Memorial Bench – Iris Rogers

Revd Claire is now going to contact the local Councillor to try and move this forward.

Putting out Chairs for Sunday Worship – Diane B. drew attention to the difficulties the Stewards have putting out chairs Sunday morning. She asked for volunteers to come to church a bit earlier to help with this.

13. Date and time of next meeting: Monday 3 November 2025 at 2.00pm

Praying with the Prayers of the Bible – Learning to Pray by Example

Luke 11:1: 'Lord, teach us to pray.'

Luke tells us that the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray after He had just prayed. This is very important. In His preaching Jesus had spoken about prayer; (eg Matt. 6:5-8) He had also included prayer in His teaching; eg Luke 18:1. But it was neither His preaching or teaching on prayer that inspired this request from His disciples; it was His *example* in prayer. Jesus had sent His disciples out to preach, yet their request was not, 'Lord, teach us to preach.' They had witnessed the mighty miracles that He performed and saw the astonishment of the crowds (Luke 9:43), but they did not ask Him, 'Lord, teach us to perform miracles.' No, they asked instead, 'Lord, teach us to pray.'

The disciples were beginning to learn that there was a direct link between the prayer life of Jesus and His Spirit-anointed ministry. We need go no further than what we find here in Luke's Gospel to see the consistent prayer life of Jesus. As news of His mighty ministry spread far and wide, '*great multitudes gathered to hear and be healed*' (Lk. 5:15). This was 'high noon' in the ministry of our Lord and as the crowds gathered to hear Him, '*He withdrew to the wilderness and prayed*' (v.16).

The next chapter tells us that Jesus made a habit of having whole nights of prayer. 'In those days He went out into the hills to pray and He continued all night' (6:12). A little later the evangelist records that immediately following the feeding of the five thousand, the disciples were with Jesus – and He was praying (9:18). When Luke recounts the Transfiguration of Jesus, he says the Lord took Peter, John and James up the mountain 'to pray' (9:28).

Luke wants his readers to know about the prayer life of Jesus. At every step of His ministry we see Jesus praying. He prayed early in the morning before the day began; He prayed late in the evening after hours of demanding ministry; He prayed in secret; He prayed with His disciples and He often prayed all night. He prayed in homes; He prayed by the roadside; He prayed on mountains; He prayed in boats; He prayed in the wilderness; He prayed in the synagogue; He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane; He prayed on the Cross.

No wonder that Jesus' example in praying prompted His disciples to ask, 'Lord, teach us to pray.' As we read and study the life and ministry of our Lord, we will be likewise moved to ask Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray.'

by the Revd Dr Herbert McGonigle (PP)

St Andrew's Trinity Website:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/standrewstrinitymc/> (use control & click)



We would be very grateful if you could all keep myself and Hazel informed of what's going on, any dates etc, so we can include them on the website, in the E-News magazine and in the Flyer. I welcome any suggestions for changes / additions you would like to see on the website, **Peter Harris**.

Quarterly Flyer – the latest one will be out in September (Autumn issue) covering September, October & November. (Sometimes updated in between). Copies should be available in the Mug & Biscuit or the Spinner in the entrance area – a good way of telling people (*old and new*) what is going on at our Church. Why not take a copy to pass on to someone new. **Next Flyer** coming out the beginning of December, **Hazel H, Ed**

- We play the game; God keeps the score – *Erwin W Lutzer*

Around our Circuit – What's on & Where ?

(from our circuit notices) – Web address:

www.bhbcircuit.org.uk

- **Caversham Methodist Church is starting Midweek Worship in September:** Each week at 10am on Wednesday, an half-hour service at Gosbrook Road, usually led by Rev David Jenkins, **beginning on 3 Sept**, for people from any of our churches. Followed by a Coffee Morning, to which you are welcome to stay.
- **On the third Thursday monthly at 7.30 pm, Gosbrook Road** there is "Thursday Night Live", an hour-long act of worship of varied styles. The first one, on 18th September is "Making Space".
- **Monthly Zoom Events: 'Hot Potatoes'** (first Monday)
- **'Online Bible Study'** (fourth Wed, 7.30 pm).
- **Weekly Zoom Events: 'Evening Prayer'** (Tuesday 7.30 pm)
- **'Men's Prayer Breakfast'** (Saturday 9 am).
- **'Hungerford Memory Worship'** (2nd Thursday monthly, 2.30 pm), Hungerford Methodist Church, RG17 OEH, Free parking, Step-free access, Accessible toilet.



Old Basing Methodist Church

CAMEO Club meet next on:

**Tuesdays: 16 Sept;
14 Oct & 18 Nov from
11.30 am – 1.30 pm**



***Light lunch provided. Please bring
crafts of your choice. All Welcome.***

Gillian Smethurst

Oakley Methodist Church



Coffee Mornings on:

**Tuesdays: 9 & 23 Sept;
14 & 28 Oct & 11 & 25 Nov
10.30 am – 12 noon**

**£1 for a bottomless
tea or coffee & biscuits**

***Paperbacks available, 30p ea
Proceeds to the Red Cross***

Oakridge Methodist Church

Vivian Road, B/Stoke, RG21 5QB

**'Welcome Hub' – Coffee & Craft –
Wednesdays 10 am – 12 noon**

Refreshments, some craft materials, No
charge, donations gratefully received.

Memory Worship at Oakridge Methodist Church

We held our first Memory Worship on Tuesday 12 August. It was a very hot summer's afternoon, but nevertheless the service went very well. The theme for this short service was a trip to the seaside and had you been there you would have seen Christine dressed in her bright red shorts and t-shirt ready for a day on the beach. Using visual aids we remembered the things you do at the sea-side and sung *'I do like to be beside the seaside.'*

Jesus spent time on the beach and so as our service continued we presented the *'Open the Book Story'* called *'Breakfast by the Sea'*. We had a short reflection, a prayer and a hymn to finish with. Our service ended here, but our time together continued with refreshments, including ice cream.

Memory Worship is intended for anyone who finds the format and structure of a Sunday service difficult and their family members or friends. It continues on the second Tuesday afternoon in the month at Oakridge Methodist Church at 2.30pm so dates until the end of this year are: 9 Sept; 14 Oct; 11 Nov & 9 Dec. Invitations / flyers available, **Marianne Sales**

'TUESDAY COFFEE CLUB'

Come & enjoy a '*cuppa & chat*', everyone welcome. Runs alongside *Mug & Biscuit*, back of church



10–11.30am, finishes in time to grab lunch in 'M & B'! Aims to stay open *all year apart from Christmas*, Di Spencer

The Fountain Prayer Group

meets in the **Main Hall or Small Hall** at St Andrew's Trinity Church

on: **Thursdays: 11 & 25 Sept; 9 & 23 Oct and 13 & 27 Nov**



We gather at 2.30 pm and begin at 2.45 pm with a short reflection. The rest of our time together includes a period of silence and some prayerful sharing. We finish the formal part at around 4 pm. Please come even if you cannot attend every meeting.

Angela Webb (angela@webbfamily.org.uk)

'The 'Singing Group'



Will Meet Next on the following Mondays:

1 Sept; 13 & 27 Oct and 10 & 24 Nov at 11 am at church, all welcome.

More information from Peggy.

Trinity Circle Meets at St Andrew's Trinity, 7.30 pm on the 2nd Tuesday monthly:

9 Sept – 'Karibuni Children' SEE p5

14 Oct – David Farmer – 'My time in Pakistan', Part 2;

11 Nov – Martin Frost 'My Time in the Met';

9 Dec – Roger Doust 'Christmas Celebration.

Sonia

Northern Housegroup Meets at Members' homes on the 1st Tuesday evening monthly.

Sonia, Hilary and Edna

(JAM) – 'Jesus And Me' Meet:

2.30 pm – 4.30 pm, usually the 2nd Sunday of the month at

St Andrew's Trinity Methodist Church



The Next 'JAM' Dates are:

Sundays: 14 Sept; 12 Oct; 9 Nov and 14 Dec

* * * * *

JAM – Children & Families meet to hear stories of Jesus, Craft, Singing & Tea.

All welcome, do come & join us.

'Crafting Bits' – (we have paints, coloured sand, felt, google eyes, lollipop sticks & much more), please contact:

Yvonne Hunt: email:

yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk



South Ham Churches Lunch Club

St Andrew's, St Josephs & St Peters run a Lunch Club on the 2nd & 4th Fridays, 12.30 pm, at St Joseph's Church, St Michael's Road. Open to over 55's, cost £6 per head – (main course, pudding and a cup of tea). More info from **Churches' Co-ordinator, Hannah Lock**. If you would like to help, more information from **Bob Lock, Methodist Co-ordinator**.



Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:

Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson
 email: revclaire72@btinternet.com

* * * * *

Church Contacts:

Diane Bath: Snr Steward – ☎ 01256 320429 /
 email: dianebath51@gmail.com

Linda Hoe: Snr Steward – ☎ 01256 417219 /
 email: lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk

* * * * *

St Andrew's Trinity Bookings: Contact: Bob Lock, email: robertlock1@virgnmedia.com

* * * * *

St Andrew's Trinity Quarterly E-News, Editor:
Hazel Harris, ☎ 01256-461375
 email: hazel@basingstokecircuit.net

The List of – Church Stewards & Congregational Representatives on Church Council can be found on the Notice Board at the Back of the Church.

ALSO a Copy of the most Current Church Council Minutes.

Yvonne Hunt –

Is our **Children's, Families & Young Persons Outreach Worker** for our **B/Stoke Methodist Churches,** contact: ☎ 07462 040644 or email: yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk

* * * * *

Louise Craig –

Is our new **B/Stoke Assistant Outreach Worker,** contact: ☎ 07935 077713 or email: louise.c@bhbcircuit.org.uk

Other Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:

NEW Personal Assistant to the Charity Officers: Pat Dyer, will be based in the Circuit Office, Reading, working primarily with Revd Martin Beukes, Circuit Superintendent, to expand on the work that Marion Young was doing.

Our best wishes to Marion from St Andrew's Trinity for her retirement at the end of August.

* * * * *

Circuit Office email: office@bhbcircuit.org.uk
 ☎: 0118 958 1505

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Circuit Administrator: Lee Frost, can be contacted: ☎ 07586 441328 & by email at: lee.f@bhbcircuit.org.uk

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Children's, Families & Young Person's Outreach Worker, B/Stoke, Yvonne Hunt can be contacted: ☎: 07462 040644 or by email: yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk

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We are part of the Berkshire Hampshire Borders Methodist Circuit, website address is: www.bhbcircuit.org.uk

Berkshire & Hampshire Borders Methodist Circuit is a Registered Charity, No is: 1134891

All Parish Pump Items:
Are used with their permission,
(both written & graphics),
Hazel, Ed

Memorial flowers

We have a small group of flower arrangers who are happy to offer to do small flower arrangements, on our 'Memorial Book Cabinet' (Max cost £10).

If you would like to mark a significant date in memory of someone special in this way, please **speak to Ann Walker or a steward,** preferably two weeks in advance.

- **Your choice –** One beautiful Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation: *"My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £50 sermon that lasts 15 minutes, and a £10 sermon that lasts a full hour. Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."*
- If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito in the room – *Anita Koddick*



Chaplaincy Prayer Letter – July & August 2025

Dear Supporters

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers – they are very much needed and appreciated. Here are some of the things God has done recently in His mission as we have engaged with people.

- A pupil recognised a Chaplain who also performs in 'Open the Book' and asked about similar activities connected to church.
- A Chaplain met a parent who mentioned her children spoke of 'Open the Book' at School. It led to a conversation about her children going to Sunday School and her returning to church.
- A shop worker's cancer treatment went wrong and she was in hospital. The Chaplains prayed and sent a signed card so when, several months later, she returned to work she thanked the Chaplain profusely for caring about her and praying. She has started going to a church with a friend.
- A Chaplain met a church member doing voluntary work and was able to encourage him.
- A WhatsApp support group included a shop worker who was able to see how Christians support one another and pray for people.
- A family being made homeless was prayed for over many weeks. They found an ideal house within reach of the special school the child attended and recognised the support they had been given.
- A security guard treated someone with great consideration and remarked to a Chaplain that they had seen how Chaplains handle situations compassionately and so were copying the approach.
- A Chaplain met lapsed members of the church and was able to encourage them to return.
- A shop worker spoke to a Chaplain for the first time to say how much the mere presence of Chaplains was appreciated because it showed everyone that people cared.
- We gave a presentation to the Mayor, Basingstoke MP and others in a multi-faith community service groups meeting, and we had a publicity stand in The Malls in June.

There are many opportunities within the community to engage with people and we would welcome more help with this. Chaplains attend the law courts four mornings a week, another is a valuable member of the Police Chaplaincy team and one attends the bus station weekly. Others visit shops, The Safe or meet people in the streets. We are available for Foodbank volunteers at their warehouse, and we lead discussion groups in the Discovery Centre. We are also present at many civic events.

From an admin perspective, we are still waiting for a meeting about a new lease on the office in Festival Place.

May God Bless you,

John, (Chair of Trustees)

Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy
Suite 1, Paddington House, Festival Place, BStoke, RG21 7LJ
admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk ☎: 01256 842232

Chaplaincy Prayer Letter – July & August 2025, cont'd

Prayer Requests:

- Give thanks that we can help make Basingstoke a caring place for everyone
- Give thanks for the opportunities Chaplains have had to point people towards God and church and to follow up other contacts they have had. Pray that we may be aware of opportunities to engage with people in need and use them.
- Pray for people who feel uncared for and those searching for answers to life's problems.
- Many shop workers are under pressure as retailers seek to make shops profitable; pray for their safety and well-being.
- Pray for service providers in the town, especially the policy and security staff.
- Pray that our presence in the courts will bring calm and opportunities for reflection.
- Pray for good community relationships, with understanding between people of different backgrounds and faiths, remembering civic and faith leaders.
- Pray for people to consider becoming a Chaplain and come for a taster session.
- Pray for a good lease agreement to continue in our office space.

3-5 October | NEC Birmingham

3GENERATE 2025

Methodist Children & Youth Assembly

A weekend to remember for children and young people!

We are going

Inviting all young people aged 8 to 18 to join the circuit for the full weekend.
Plus, any 4- to 7-year-olds (with a parent) to the Saturday

Tune in to God, the world and each other

What is God saying?

What next? Respond and take action

Please ask your leader for more information or get a parent to contact
Yvonne Hunt,
Children's Families and Young Person Outreach Worker
Mobile: 07462040644 Email: yvonne.h@bhbcircuit.org.uk

Please Pray for all our young people going to 3 Generate in October.



Remembrance Sunday 9 November 11 am War Memorial, Civic Offices

The Annual Remembrance Parade will step off at 10:40 am (TBC) from London Street to march / walk to the War Memorial at the Civic Offices, Courtyard, London Road, Basingstoke. The Parade registration will open at 9:30am in the Marketplace in front of the Willis Museum. The Parade line will start at the end of London Street by the Triumph Gates, working backwards towards Marketplace. After the service the parade will reverse back the same way giving salute to the Mayor and Deputy Lieutenant. All will then be dismissed at Marketplace.

- Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind – *Dr Seuss*

The following poem was inspired by a lady called Phil Bevan who responded to God's call to take aid to Myanmar after floods there, many years ago...

'God's whisper to me', by Mallie Sharpe (PP)

God whispered in my ear one day
And said how it would be
I shrugged and turned away and said
"No way, You can't mean me!"

Next time it wasn't a whisper
He spoke quite loud and clear
He had a job for me to do
He said "have faith, don't fear".

So I took the challenge offered
But how should I begin?
This task was much too big for me
I had to trust in Him.

When the problems overwhelmed me
And I couldn't see my way
I'd put my faith and hope in Him
Fall to my knees and pray.

And my God, He never failed me
Through good days and through bad
He filled me with a courage
I never knew I had.

So if you feel God calling you
Don't doubt and answer "no"
He knows the plans He has for you
Step out in faith...and go!

Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane's

Variety Show

In conjunction with the Grand Order of Water Rats

Starring Rick Wakeman

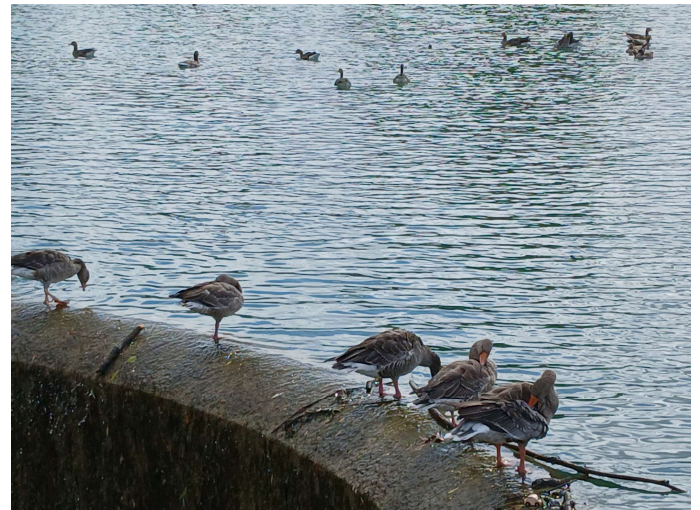
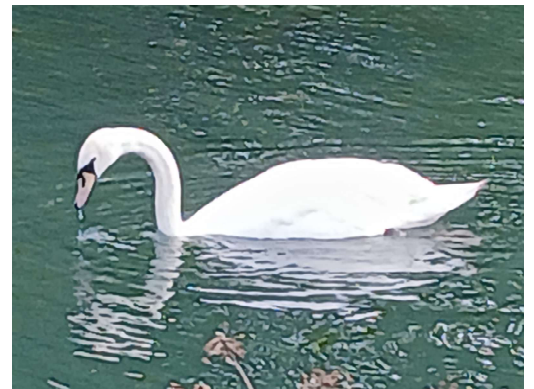
**Saturday 4 October 2025,
7.30 pm**

The Anvil, Churchill Way

Book now: 01256 844244 /
anvilarts.org.uk

**Tickets £30 (over 65's \$20
and under 16's £15
(includes £3 booking fee)**

Taken from OneChurch, BStoke



- Children are a great comfort in your old age, and they help you reach it faster too –
Lionel Kauffman

A few photos taken at a very recent visit to 'The Vyne' (NT)

A bench in honour of Jane Austen at the back of the house; some Canada Geese and one of a pair of swans, Ed

Diary Page, St Andrew's Trinity – CHECK OUT the Church Noticeboards !

Dates	Timings	<u>EVENTS</u> at St Andrew's Trinity unless advised
<i>Weekly & Monthly Events – TT (term-time)</i>		
Tue, Wed, Thur weekly TT only	10am–1.30pm	Mug & Biscuit is Open for drinks, biscuits, cakes, tea-cakes, light lunches, p22
Tues, weekly	10am–11.30am	Tuesday Coffee Club, p16
Wed weekly TT	1pm–3pm	Knit One, Drop One
2nd/4th Frid mnth	12.30pm	S/Ham Churches Lunch Club, <i>St Joseph's Church</i>, p16
2nd & 4th Thurs monthly	2.30pm–4pm	The Fountain Prayer Group twice monthly unless otherwise advised, p16
4th Tues evening	6.30pm	Harrow Way Housegroup
<i>Youth Organisations – Weekly, Mostly Term-time – abbreviated to TT in places</i>		
Mon, weekly, term-time (TT)	7pm–8.30pm	1st South Ham Guides, (age 10–14), Leader: Sarah, New Members Sign Up via Girl Guides' website: www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus
Wed, weekly TT	4.30pm–5.45pm	3rd South Ham Rainbows, (age 4–7), Lena Ponting
Wed, weekly TT	6pm–7.30pm	3rd South Ham Brownies, (age 7–10), Lena Ponting
Thur, weekly TT	10am–11am	Playtime U5 Group, Contact: Theresa Strachan
Frid, weekly	6.30pm–10pm	3rd B/Stoke Boys Brigade, Captain Theresa Strachan p11
<i>Other Events (including events that are once a month)</i>		
<u>September & Future Dates</u>		<u>At St Andrew's Trinity</u>
Mond 1 Sept	11am	Singing Group, p16 (also 13 & 27 Oct and 10 & 24 Nov)
Tues 2 Sept	7.30pm	Northern Housegroup meets, p16 (also 7 Oct & 4 Nov)
Tues 9 Sept	7.30pm	Trinity Circle Meets, p5 & p16 (also 14 Oct & 11 Nov)
Thur 11 Sept	2.30pm	Fountain Prayer Group, p16 (and 9/23 Oct & 13/27 Nov)
Sund 14 Sept	2.30pm	JAM meet, p16 (also 12 Oct & 9 Nov)
Thur 25 Sept	2.30pm	Fountain Prayer Group, p16 (see above for other dates)
Sat 27 Sept	1pm	Harvest Lunch, p6
Sund 28 Sept	10.30am	Harvest Worship, p6
Sund 26 Oct	Approx 11.45am	General Church Meeting, following Morning Worship
Sund 26 Oct		CLOCKS go Back
Mond 3 Nov	2pm	Church Council Meeting, p1
Sund 16 Nov	3pm	Service to Remember our 'Loved Ones', p4
Sund 16 NOV		DEADLINE for December 2025 E-News, p1
<u>Sept onwards</u>		
Sept onwards	Various	<u>Other Circuit Churches</u>
Tue 9 Sept	2.30pm	Memory Worship, Oakridge (also 14 Oct & 11 Nov)
Tue 9 & 23 Sept	10.30am	Coffee morning, Oakley (also 14 / 28 Oct & 11 / 25 Nov)
Tue 16 Sept	11.30am	Cameo at Old Basing (also 14 Oct & 18 Nov)
Sat 4 Oct	10am – 3pm	Silchester Retreat, p23 (also 22 Nov)
Various	Various	Various Circuit events, p15

- **Politicians** are people who, when they see the light at the end of the tunnel, order more tunnel.

The Mug & Biscuit, St Andrew's Trinity Methodist Church is Open, (usually term-time but sometimes subject to change):



Tuesdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)
Wednesdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)
Thursdays: 10 am to 1.30 pm (term-time)



- We serve: **home-made cakes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches & tea cakes.**
- Menu is subject to change. **Last Orders for hot food 1 pm.**
- Takeaway Available. Credit Cards Accepted.

- **The Mug & Biscuit is NOT OPEN During School Holidays**

The Mug & Biscuit is registered as a 'Warm Hub Opening' during 'Mug & Biscuit' Hours



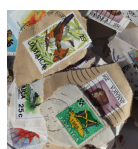
We look forward to welcoming old & new friends.

The Mug & Biscuit Team



Any queries, **Offers of Help** – contact: **Linda Hoe** ☎: 07963 583506

RECYCLE Used Postage Stamps via the box in the Mug & Biscuit for '**St Michael's Hospice**'.



THANKS, **Bob**

Image, Pete's photo

RECYCLE Bottle Tops – In the Brown Box on the right at the back of the church.

Proceeds to the Hospice. Please leave tops in the bag you bring them in if you can. **I also recycle 'Milkman' foil milk bottle tops too.**

Thank you, Helen



'RECYCLE plastic milk bottle tops' (only 'milk' ones), by giving them to Pamela who has a contact with the Hants & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, or ☎: 012546 467702



At 24.08.25, the Foodbank – Most Needed:

- UHT Milk
- UHT Fruit Juice
- Tinned Meat
- Hot & Cold Desserts
- Savoury Spreads
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Shopping Bags

At 24.08.25, the Foodbank – Running Low:

- Tinned Soup
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Sweet Treats
- Savoury Snacks
- Noodles
- Coffee
- Squash
- Powdered Milk
- Cup a Soup
- Toothbrushes

At 24.08.25, the Foodbank – Running Low:

- Nappies (Size 6 & above ONLY)
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Tampons
- Household Cleaning (eg cleaning spray, washing up liquid)

CHECK Out Our Website for Drop-off Locations. Thankyou.

At 24.08.25, the Foodbank – We have Plenty:

- Pasta
- Rice
- Baked beans
- Pulses
- Hot & Cold Cereal
- Non-Dairy Milk
- Sanitary pads
- Baby Food, Formula & Nappies size 5 & below
- Hand soap



More info on web: www.basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

RETREAT CENTRE SILCHESTER RG7 2NY



Come and join us for a day of refreshment and reflection at Silchester Methodist Church. Our retreats are to enable you to explore and experience meeting with God; to be explorers and journeyers. On each day, themed multi-sensory experiences are available to choose from.

* * * * *



Saturday 4th October

"Come to Me.."

An invitation to take time to learn the rhythms of Grace.

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.

Mark 6.31 (NIV)

* * * * *

Saturday 22nd November

What does Advent mean for you?



Website: [Silchester Christian Retreat Centre](http://www.silchesterchristianretreatcentre.co.uk)

For enquiries or to book for any of the Retreat Days please contact Angela Hiscock angela.hiscock@btinternet.com or phone her on 01256 850432. Numbers are limited.

All days run from 10am-3pm. Refreshments from 9.45am.

Please bring a packed lunch.

Hot and cold drinks, including cup-a-soup provided.

Suggested donation per person: £10.

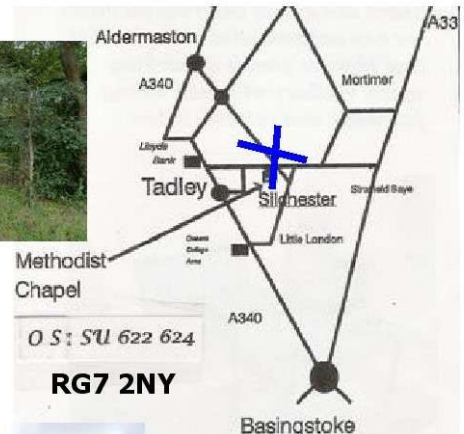
Location



Paddle.worthy.windmill



Entrance from Pamber Road



Car parking and entrance to hall at rear of the Church.

Except where otherwise stated, all artwork & photos are by a member of the Retreat Leadership team.

Christian Resources Available:

Steve Wood, supplies Christian Resources to surrounding areas via 'Sonrise Christian Resources'. Contact Steve ☎: 07396 825097 or email for advice. Happy to help source any item needed: General Christian books, cards, gifts.....

Website at: www.sonrisechristianresources.co.uk

Email: steve@sonrisechristianresources.co.uk

www.facebook.com/sonrisechristianresources

- If you want to forget all your other troubles, wear too tight shoes – *Anon*

Oh Father, thank you for Your love which never ceases.

As I come and kneel and sing Your praises.

Who is a God like You, so wonderful in all You do.

You give such peace and joy. That nothing can take away and destroy.

How wonderful to know You more. As I come each day, Your Word to explore.

How faithful and true in all You do. What a wonderful Lord, so true to Your Word.

I worship You with all my heart and grow in You in every part. **by Pat Murphy**

Harvest theme....by Lester Amann (PP)**Abiding in Jesus**

This is the time of year for many churches to hold their Harvest Festival services. No doubt, there will be displays of food, some bought, with others grown in gardens and allotments. While gardeners can have pleasure growing fruit and vegetables it can be hard work tending to them and dealing with pests. Jesus knew about the care given to vines. In John 15:1-8 Jesus compared Himself to a vine and referred to God as the gardener. These verses are both challenging and reassuring. In this parable, God is responsible for pruning the vine. He sees what parts are useful and what parts are useless. The unproductive parts are cut away, so that growth is encouraged. Jesus is telling us that God will prune our lives, not to harm us, but to encourage our spiritual growth. God's pruning cuts away wrong attitudes and wasteful behaviour, all of which serve no useful purpose in our lives. This pruning is required so that we become more fruitful. And the fruit God wants is love, joy, patience etc, (see Galatians 5:22-23). These holy qualities are intended to influence the world to change it from the bad to all that is good.

To encourage its growth, a vine has to be regularly cut back. The effect looks drastic, but essential. When God cuts away the dead wood in our lives He does it because He knows how our lives can grow. The pruning knives are in the hands of our Father God who only desires the best for us. This pruning process can be painful, but Jesus says that it is vital if the Holy Spirit is to flow through us to produce the fruit that God wants. Also in this parable, Jesus said He was the vine, and we are the branches. We have no existence apart from Jesus. We can do nothing for God on our own and must be joined to Jesus. In the same way a vine utilises the life-giving sap to flow into the branches, so we need the Holy Spirit to flow His life into us. It is only by remaining in Jesus can He give us the inner resources for an effective fruit-producing life.

Jesus said '*Abide in Me*' (*John 15:4 King James Version*). Abiding speaks of sustenance, being upheld and supported, enduring and withstanding. So, if we are to reap a harvest of holiness, may we be prepared for God's pruning, and continue to abide in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Prayer for September 2025

Heavenly Father, September is the month of new starts for so many. New starts can be exciting, but they can also be daunting. We don't always know what to expect and sometimes we feel as if we are on our own in a strange new place, or situation.

Help us to know that, as your people, we are never alone. You promised, through Jesus, to be with us always and You gave us Your Holy Spirit to empower us.

In some ways every day is a new start – a new gift from You. As we unwrap the gift of each new day, this September, encourage us to receive it confidently and expectantly.

Help us to know that we can do all things, through Christ Jesus, who strengthens us. We can! In Jesus' name, Amen.

by Daphne Kitching (PP)

Be Still & Know that I am God (Psalm 46 v 10)

Sometimes we are so busy,
we don't have time,
To wait on Him and
receive what is mine.

He waits for us to come to Him
and never forces himself within.

He is gentle and won't rush in.
As we come to Him,
He frees us from sin.

As we spend time with Him and
receive His peace, He brings
Himself and such release.

With Him in our lives, we are
warmed in our heart
And never want to be apart.

by Pat Murphy

Premier Christian Radio – the First Christian Broadcaster to Britain (PP)



Christian broadcasting was not always allowed in this country. As late as the mid-1980s, Christians were petitioning Parliament and the broadcast regulator to allow Christian broadcasting to begin in the UK. Finally, it happened, and in 1990 the law was changed. Five years later, in summer of 1995, Premier Christian Radio was launched. The Christian community rallied around the station, with thousands committing to provide regular monthly support, and make it the success it is today.

Highlights of the past 30 years include:

- 1999 – launch of Premier Online, streaming Premier to the world
- 2006 – launch of Premier.tv, providing Christian Internet TV on demand
- 2009 – broadcasting nationwide begins on DAB Digital radio
- 2010 – Premier Gospel begins
- 2016 – Premier Praise begins

Nowadays, with more than 1,100,000 listeners every week, Premier is the largest Christian Media organisation in the UK, reaching people via its print, digital and radio platforms. Premier Christian Radio is available online and nationally on DAB and on smart speakers. The Premier Christian App is available to both iPhone and Android users, via their respective app stores.

Transfiguration by Canon Paul Hardingham (PP)

'There Must Be More to Life Than This'. These words from Freddie Mercury of Queen will resonate with many of us, when we are looking to get more out of life, even as Christians.

At a deeper level, we want to see and hear more clearly what God is doing in our circumstances. The Transfiguration of Jesus, which we remembered in August, helps us to consider this issue (Luke 9:28-36).

Jesus was transfigured alongside Moses and Elijah, 'As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed, and His clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.' (29). To understand our circumstances, firstly we need to see Jesus as God wants us to see Him. The disciples' eyes were opened to see Jesus' divinity. The presence of Moses and Elijah confirmed Him as God's promised Messiah. By helping us to grasp who Jesus really is, this event powerfully calls us to entrust our lives into Jesus' hands to experience His presence and power.

Secondly, if we are to make sense of our circumstances, we need to hear what God says about His Son. A cloud covered them and 'a voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to Him.'" (35). God affirmed His love and call on Jesus as His beloved and chosen Son. Do we hear God speaking these same words to us? When we know that we too are loved and accepted by God, this transforms our understanding of our lives.

Whatever our circumstances, they can be transformed by what we see and hear. Open your eyes to see a transfigured world. Open your ears to hear a transfiguring voice. Open your heart to become a transfigured life.

'No one who meets Jesus ever stays the same.' (Philip Yancey)

- Experience is that marvellous thing that enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again – F P Jones

For the Young & Young at heart (PP)

PUZZLES

Crossword

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their promised land, they obeyed God, but not for long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every year, and stole all the food the Israelites had grown.



The Israelites had to hide in the hills.



After 7 years, the Israelites called out to God for help.

Gideon was secretly threshing wheat when an angel arrived.



The Lord is helping you, mighty warrior.



God said,

I will give you the power.



I don't mean to be rude, but it doesn't look like He is

But my clan is the weakest in our tribe and I'm the weakest in my family.

I'll be helping you. Start by pulling down the altar built for Baal and build one for Me.



Gideon did as he was told (but he waited and did it at night).



In the morning, people came to complain to Gideon's father.



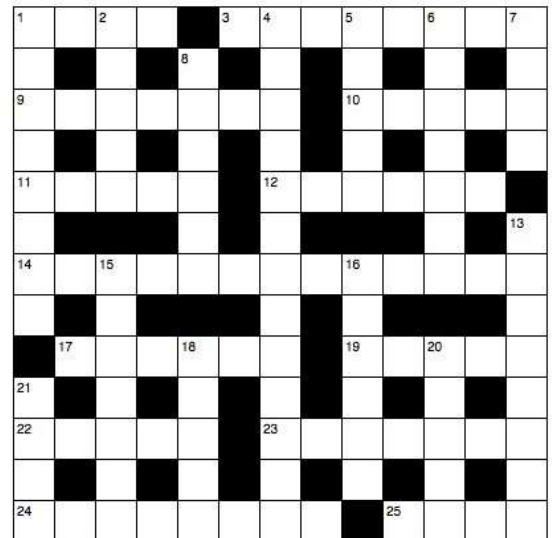
If Baal is upset, he can take his own revenge, can't he?



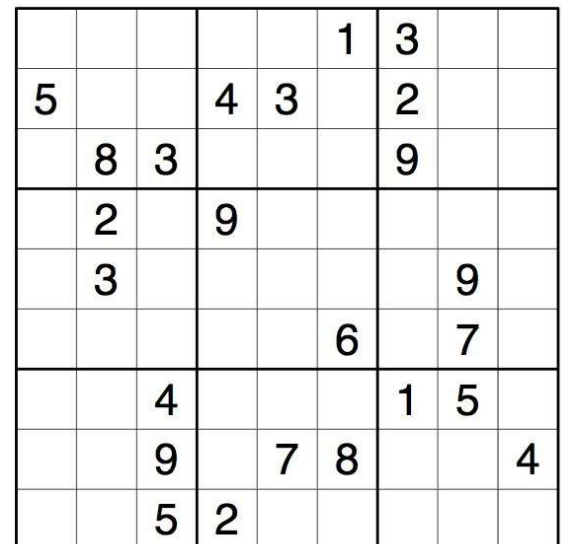
Gideon sent out messages to call men to fight the Midianites..



and 32000 came.



Sudoku



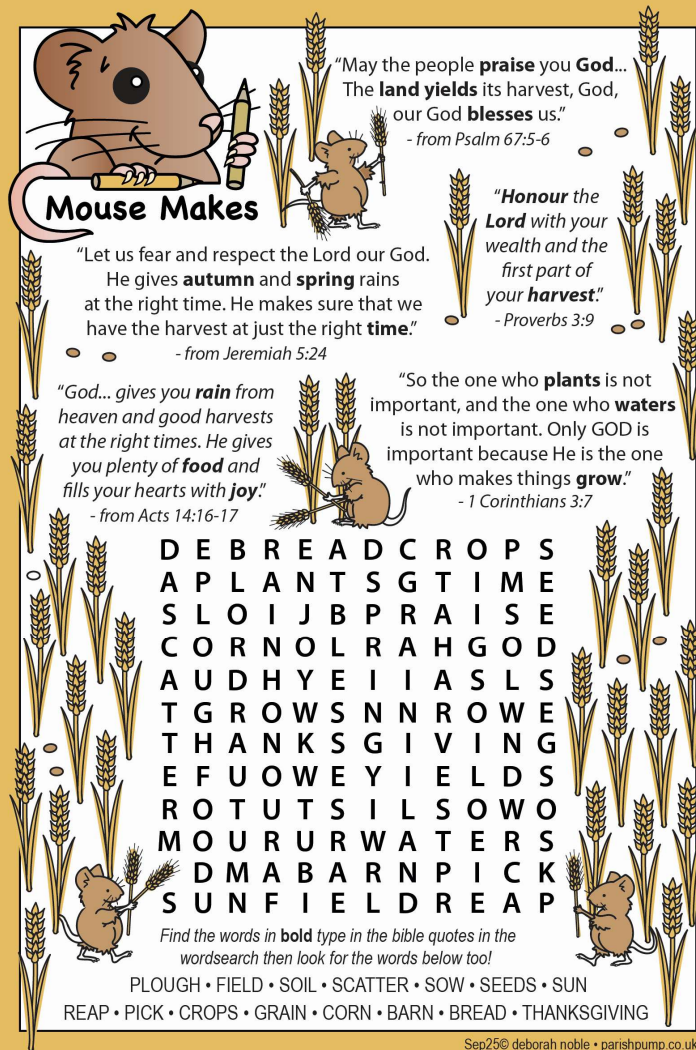
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Wordsearch Clues

On 3 September, the Church remembers St Gregory the Great (540 – 604AD), one of the most important Popes and influential writers of the Middle Ages, well worth remembering, because he changed the course of history in the British Isles. Son of a very rich Roman senator, Gregory converted as a young man & sold his vast estates to fund six monasteries in Sicily & a seventh in Rome. He gave generously to the poor and became a monk.

Gregory	Converted	Poor	Angles
History	Young	Monk	Prague
Son	Estates	English	Pope
Roman	Monasteries	Slaves	Apostle
Senator	Generous	Angels	Elected

N G R A N G L E S A L T
 O A D O O G T E T D O E
 Y H S N T M V S L E S L
 M S P H H A P O S T L E
 O H S I L G N E N R E C
 N O P S U O R E N E G T
 K S E T A T S E S V N E
 N Y R O M A N N G N A D
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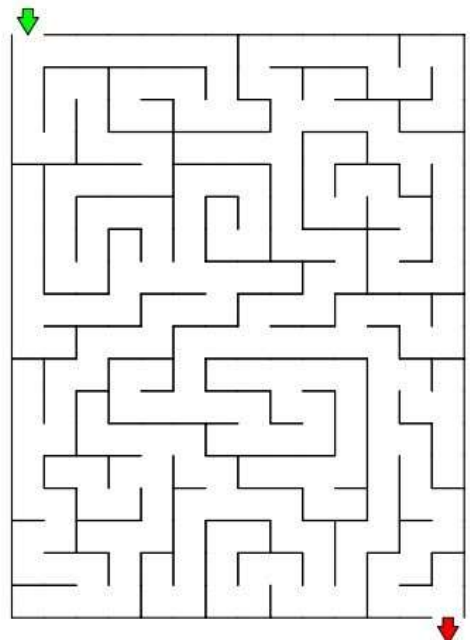
Crossword Clues Across:

- 1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th-century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12 'Come quickly to — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

Crossword Clues Down:

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

- Because of God's grace, failure is never final – *Anon*



The Apple Rhyme

Apples ripe and apples red,
Grow they high above my head.
Alack-a-day! For I am small
And apple-trees are mostly tall;
Dreary me! But what is sadder,
Nobody can find a ladder!
From a poem by Madeline Nightingale

The tale of the RICH FOOL



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO HAD LOTS OF LAND WHICH GREW WONDERFUL WHEAT.



I HAVEN'T ANYWHERE TO KEEP ALL THIS FOOD



I KNOW! I'LL PULL DOWN MY BARN AND BUILD BIGGER ONES



THE MAN DEMOLISHED HIS OLD BARN...



...AND BEGAN TO BUILD NEW ONES.



SOON I'LL BE THE RICHEST MAN IN THE TOWN!



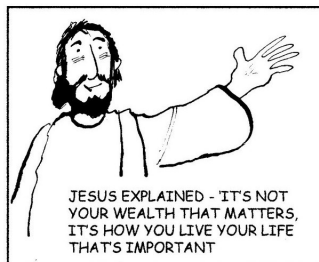
I'M SO LUCKY - I CAN EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!



BUT THAT VERY NIGHT, THE MAN DIED!



WHAT GOOD WERE HIS RICHES NOW?



JESUS EXPLAINED - IT'S NOT YOUR WEALTH THAT MATTERS, IT'S HOW YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE THAT'S IMPORTANT

Puzzle Pages Solutions

Across: 1, Also. 3, Offering.

9, The Magi. 10, Rules. 11, Soper. 12, Help me. 14, Isaac and Jacob. 17, Scorch. 19, In man. 22, Loads. 23, Inertia. 24, Vicinity. 25, Belt.

Down: 1, Artistic. 2, Sleep.

4, Faith in Christ. 5, Enrol. 6, Islamic. 7, Gasp. 8, Fabric. 13, Abundant. 15, Archaic. 16, Jailer. 18, Resin. 20, Mitre. 21, Slav.

Sudoku Solution, medium

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

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

Book Review: Good News Bible – The Youth Edition Bible Society, £24.99

Winner of the Christian Resources Together Bible of the Year award 2019, this award-winning Bible produced by Bible Society & Youth for Christ is still helping young people explore the Bible, regardless of where they are on their faith journey.

Key features include:

- links to a dedicated YouTube playlist with 30 videos unpacking key themes
- hundreds of interactive elements to encourage deeper engagement with text
- space for writing, doodling & drawing
- full-page introduction to each book of the Bible
- 32 colour pages of key things to know about the Bible & help with tough topics

Weakest	Israelites	Hide	Helping	Altar	Grown	Stole	Complain
Angel	Baal	Night	Upset	Tribe	Food	Secretly	Midianites
Power	Warrior	Fight	God	Gideon	Rude	Clan	Messages