

 *the* NEW  
**Messenger**  
JUNE & JULY 2018



Neither height nor  
depth, nor anything else  
in all creation, will be  
able to separate us from  
the love of God that is in  
Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Romans 8:39



**Third  
Avenue**

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY**

GILLINGHAM METHODISTS | *Part of the North Kent Circuit*

# Sunday Preaching plan for Gillingham & Hartlip

## JUNE 2018

**THIRD AVENUE | MORNING | 10.30AM**

**HARTLIP | EVENING | 6.30PM**

**03 JUNE REV ROBIN SELMES**  
HEALING SERVICE

**JUDITH GERMAN**

**10 JUNE JASON COOKE**

**REV MELVYN COOKE**  
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

**17 JUNE REV ROBIN SELMES**  
HOLY COMMUNION

**REV ROBIN SELMES**  
HOLY COMMUNION

**24 JUNE REV SAJU MUTHALALY**  
VICAR OF ST MARK'S, GILLINGHAM  
ANNIVERSARY & GIFT DAY

**REV KEN GEORGE**

## JULY 2018

**01 JULY YOUTH SERVICE**

**REV ROBIN SELMES**

**08 JULY REV GARY WATT**

**CIRCUIT FAREWELL SERVICE FOR  
REV GARY & LUZIA WATT, DEACON PRU**  
6PM | SITTINGBOURNE METHODIST CHURCH

**15 JULY REV ROBIN SELMES**  
HOLY COMMUNION

**REV ROBIN SELMES**  
HOLY COMMUNION

**22 JULY DEACON PRU**

**DEREK GALLAGHER**

**29 JULY REV ROBIN SELMES**  
PRU'S FAREWELL SERVICE

**TONY BROWN**

# Hello and Welcome to the Latest edition of the New Messenger...

**...we have some great summer events and news to share from our church community.**

Our church building has been a firm and constant fixture of Third Avenue since it was built in the 1930's.

Over the years it has been the centre of many daily community events: it has been the gathering place for families commemorating loved ones, celebrating births and marriages and for congregations to meet for worship on a Sunday or on special days in the Christian calendar. The continuity of community service and worship practised here today forms part of a much longer line of Christian faith back to the early meetings of Jesus' disciples in the holy lands.

God is continuing with His plan for our church and I would encourage you to look through the magazine to see what is happening on your doorstep in your community. Whether you attend Sunday worship regularly, occasionally or not at all, it doesn't matter, this magazine is for you as a member of our community. I hope you will find something to inform, encourage or inspire you to get involved.

The fury of the violent thunderstorms we recently experienced in Gillingham called to mind the words of an old hymn:

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul, Steadfast and sure while the billows roll, Fastened to the Rock which cannot move, Grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.*

These words, although written over a hundred years ago, were born from faith in our God, who is as constant and faithful as He has always been. This Sunday we'll sing new words to modern songs, but the continuity of worship and the desire to serve our community remain true...

*I will say of the Lord 'He is my refuge'*

*I will say of the Lord 'He is my strength'*

*I will say of the Lord 'He is my shelter, my hiding place'*

**Helen Garland**



You can contact us anytime by email: [messenger@gillinghammethodists.uk](mailto:messenger@gillinghammethodists.uk)  
by post: New Messenger | Third Avenue Church & Community  
Gillingham | ME7 2LU or come and chat to any of the team.  
**Deadline to receive articles for the AUG | SEPT edition will be 20 Aug 2018.**



## *A message from our Minister Rev Robin Selmes...*

You could say that I live at times in a divided house. Chris and myself, are always discussing the latest transfer news or sporting headlines while the non-sporty side of the family make a dive for the telly or ipad. A non-sporty friend once said to me if God had meant people to exercise, why were sofa's invented?

This summer though, once the non-sporty types have settled comfortably in the lounge, the great summer of sport means they are not going to be safe with Test Match Cricket, World Cup, Wimbledon and then in September the Ryder cup invading the living room and somehow reproaching them for their inactivity.

There is no respite all summer, In fact Mandy will probably read more books and complete more puzzles than I can think at any time in our marriage.

*So where is God in all of this? What can we learn from this?*

Well, at its best, sport, like faith, should build community and reinforce a sense of belong. It should be holistic about body, mind and soul and it shouldn't just be about those who take



part because there is a vital role for coaches, mentors and supporters.

Sport, like faith, should also be about offering our best, no matter what our limitations, with words of the writer of the book of Hebrews ringing in our ears to "run the race set out before us". The Christian life is a race. It's not just sitting in some great, sanctified sofa waiting for the Rapture. That isn't the point. We are called to run a race and to run it as best as we can. But the good news is that we have supporters cheering us on, the apostle Paul said " We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses".

When ancient sprinters dashed off in their quest for victory and the laurel crown, they often did so in a large arena filled with spectators (much like sporting events today). Peering up into the stands full of billowing clothes and moving people looked somewhat

like looking up into the clouds.

And that's what it's like for us in our race, too. We're not the only ones to take this journey. People have run this way before, in fact Hebrews Chapter 11 is sometimes called the "Hall of faith". In other words..

*The great cloud of witnesses are all those people who have lived before us ~ whether famous or not & who have lived lives of faith, following God, worshipping Jesus, leaving for us a rich spiritual legacy.*

Thinking about their lives, how they lived, what they lived for, and how they died, is an inspiration. Their example shows us how to have that kind of faith and how to live it.

But equally we don't have to look back to find "heroes of the faith." We can find them today—right in the pews and chairs on any given Sunday morning. Christians are meant



to make this journey together, and we're much stronger when we do. Seeing the powerful examples of faithfulness around you can give you the encouragement you need to charge ahead especially at times when we are struggling with life.

On the same line, several years ago when the Olympics were held in Barcelona, Spain, Derek Redmond, a young British athlete was in the semi-finals of the 400m. He was in sight of the finish line when he fell to the track with a torn muscle. He tried to stagger towards the line unaided when suddenly a man came out of the stands to help him. He put his arm around him and helped him to cross the line. The person was Derek's father.

Sometimes life is difficult and even though we are cheered on by others shouting their encouragement we still find ourselves constantly tripping up over the obstacles of life. In those moments please remember we have a God, a heavenly father who loves us and will help us when the pain is too great. Who will come alongside us, put His arm around and give us the strength to finish the race.

*Robin*



# JustOne

— with J. John —  
at Priestfield Stadium

**Saturday 9th June 2018**

Just One Day  
Just One Message  
Just One Invitation

[justonepriestfield.com](http://justonepriestfield.com)

Phone 07712 271598 or 01923 287774 | Email [connect@justonepriestfield.com](mailto:connect@justonepriestfield.com)

Facebook JustOne Stadium | Twitter @JustOneStadium | Instagram JustOneStadium

# Third Avenue Girlguiding



## Rainbows

I am pleased to say that we have a new Rainbow leader who has bravely taken over from Linda and Trudy and is supported by a great team. I will introduce you to the new Rainbow team in the next magazine once they have had a chance to get settled.

## Brownies

Our Brownies had a fantastic PGL Holiday at Easter. The girls had a great time despite the cold weather and approached each activity with excitement and enthusiasm. They took part in so many activities from in orienteering to buggy building, campfires to riding on quad bikes. The highlights for me were the moments I witnessed a Brownie discovering her hidden talent or overcoming a fear: The one who could encourage and motivate; the one who conquered the trapeze; the one who had never stayed away from home before, the one who mastered the art of tying brilliant knots and the

one who did not want to go to the heights of the giant swing but excelled in belaying. Most of all they had loads of fun spending time with their friends.

## Guides

The Guide unit is continuing to grow in numbers especially since eight Brownies moved up to them just before half term. It was great to see them excitedly enjoying their first meeting making s'mores and chatting to their new Guide friends. So far this term the Guides have been busy working towards a confectioners badge, a team building badge and have also had an around the world evening.



Helen Garland | Snowy Owl

## Drama Group News...

Thank you to those who came to support the Junior Section show on Tuesday 1st May - an enjoyable evening was had by all.

The Seniors are now gearing up for our next production which is to be the comedy play, based on the well known TV series, 'Allo 'Allo by Jeremy Lloyd & David Croft. For those of you who don't know or can't remember, may I remind you that the story relates to the hapless cafe owner Rene & his long suffering wife Edith, living in occupied France during the Second World War. They have hidden a priceless portrait, stolen by the Nazis, in a sausage in the cellar of their cafe. Communications with London, using a wireless disguised as a parrot, add to the many embarrassments the intrepid proprietor has to endure. Add to this the news that the Fuhrer is scheduled to visit the town, inspires various patrons to disguise themselves as Hitler, and visit Rene's cafe.



Can Rene summon all his wits, to save the day & the painting!

To remind you the show dates are **Friday 6th & Saturday 7th July at 7.30pm**. Tickets priced **£6 Adults & £5 Concessions** are now available from Keith Jackson (852712) or Sally Murphy (855343) or thro' our website. Booking forms will be available in the Church Foyer.

We look forward to seeing you.

Keith Jackson | [www.stpaulsdramagroup.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsdramagroup.co.uk)



In these times we talk and share about how services have gone, we prayerfully think about how we can help people to encounter God in our worship but most importantly we hold on to everyone's thoughts and suggestions as we plan each service. Please continue to pray for this important group.

I know from leading many churches that Worship music can easily become one of the more controversial things within the life of the church. Everyone in a church has an opinion, often in direct opposition to another, and each will expect the Minister/Worship leaders to satisfy both somehow.

Comments often heard in churches are *"You will need to be more contemporary and traditional; louder and quieter; raise the ratio of one style of music to another and vice versa—all simultaneously."*

Whether you are part of a small rural chapel or a large town church, Worship leading is not an easy job. The role requires the worship leader to be a gifted artist continually honing their craft, a theologian, and a leader. They have to listen to people's suggestions but focus on pleasing God in the manner and shape that each church have chosen to affirm.

At the heart of this is ensuring that our music choice at Third Avenue weave and flow out of our threefold style of worship and theme for that Sunday. For example, if on a Sunday our theme is kindness, then it would not be helpful to have worship music that speaks about peace. And from this simple example you can see and understand that worship planning is not easy and why we don't do it alone! For this reason every 3 weeks the worship planning team - preachers; worship group leader; duty stewards and worship leaders - gather together and prayerfully plan the next 3 services.

Flowing out of this we prepared a statement which could be used for the worship section on the new website.

*"At Third Avenue whenever we gather we love to give God our praise and thanks and know of his presence. We are very blessed with a Worship Team of great talent and commitment who lead us in worship.*

*Our services are informal, using a wide variety of worship and music styles. We love to sing, as well as being free and open to express our praise and thanksgiving through many other varied and creative ways. We love to get to know God more deeply and so at the heart of our worship is hearing God's word and understanding how we apply this to our everyday lives. This is followed by an opportunity to respond in more worship and prayer before being sent out once more to serve God in the world. Together with a Prayer Ministry available during and after each service, we believe in the power of the Holy Spirit to transform us, bringing healing and wholeness."*

These aims are not new, because as a church, here at Third Avenue we have always embraced different styles of music from Tradition to Iona to contemporary. This is important because music styles should not be competing because in truth, they all need each other, and quality worship needs all of them.

# Summer preaching series

## *People of faith & what they teach us*

The four week preaching series looks at 4 people from the Old and New testament. Each of them tells a remarkable story and offers a distinctive example of faith.

**Sunday 8 July**

**Peter the Apostle**

**Rev Gary Watt**

**Sunday 15 July**

**Lydia**

**Rev Robin Selmes**

**Sunday 22 July**

**Deborah**

**Deacon Pru**

**Sunday 29 July**

**Jacob**

**Rev Robin Selmes**

The Sermon series will culminate with **3 consecutive nights of teaching** on the **Book of Jonah**. Immerse yourself in the story of Jonah.....  
Studies begin at **7.30pm** at Third Avenue.

**Monday 30 July**

**“Running Away”**

**Tuesday 31 July**

**“Brokenness & Blessing”**

**Wednesday 1 August**

**“Ending with a question Mark!”**

During the **four Sundays in August** the Worship Group and Sunday Squad leaders take a well-deserved break from their Sunday morning roles. We thank them for all they have done throughout the year.

As we explore a new pattern of worship for August, I invite us to come together on these Sundays as a church family..... children, teenagers and adults to worship and learn together. To enable this we plan to lead 4 all-age worship services that will encourage all to share and grow in their faith.

**REV ROBIN SELMES**





### *Reflections on the life of Janet Budworth*

Mum was born on the 5th November 1938. Yes, she literally did have fireworks on her birthday every year although she was never that keen on them. A Gillingham girl, she lived in a small house on Cornwallis Avenue, went to Woodlands School and trained to be a dressmaker. Mum was seeing someone else when Dad wrote to her asking her for a date. Apparently, and lucky for us, her boyfriend at the time told her to go and meet this man and Dad obviously made a good impression. My Nan made Mum promise that she wouldn't marry until she was 21 and so it was on the 7th November 1959, 2 days after her 21st birthday that she married Dad in this very church. As a wife, Dad describes her as "one of the best" and these words also define her as a mother. Mum was born a Knight and she certainly did face a few battles throughout her life. In her

early years she missed a lot of school due to illness and eventually a deformed kidney was removed while she was still a child. She always felt that these absences spoiled her chance of getting to grammar school as she was certainly intelligent enough. Other health issues included an underactive thyroid, a stroke at 41 which damaged the eyesight in her left eye and an operation to remove her appendix in 1999 during which complications resulted in her being resuscitated more than once. Courageously she fought on and continued to push forwards, albeit with the help of walking sticks and wheels more recently. However, this latest battle with lymphoma was to prove to be one fight too many.

Mum was never happier than when she was in the kitchen baking. Whether it be for Dad, the family, the church, the British Legion, the students, there was always a reason for her to be knocking up a cake or two. I'm sure most of you here today have sampled her cakes and scones and would agree how good they were.

Mum's favourite time of year was Christmas. She loved the build-up; Christmas shopping, making and decorating the cake, writing the cards. She had this uncanny knack of being able to wrap your own presents right in front of you without you noticing and she'd be up to the early hours every Christmas morning finalising the preparations. With four children to buy for she managed to squirrel away enough money throughout the year to ensure there was always a sack full of presents for each of us. Every year, Mum would lose at least one gift which you would then receive a few weeks later when she remembered where

it was hidden. She certainly made Christmas a special and magical time for the whole family.

In addition to being an exceptional mother, Mum was many other things: a devoted wife, a loving grandma, an aunt, a cousin, a friend, a fellow parishioner, a dressmaker, a puzzle solver, a card maker, an avid tennis watcher, an excellent cook (her sausage-meat casserole was unique – none of us have been able to recreate it), a wonderful baker, a fantastic pudding maker (her trifles being my personal favourite) and a jelly and ice-cream supplier to the grandchildren. Oh, how she loved her grandchildren, nothing was too much for them. How ever you knew her I am sure you will agree that for a small, some would even say

tiny, woman she had a huge heart. Her generosity and caring nature have been a constant throughout our lives and we will miss her enormously.

The other day Dad was reminiscing about the many cruises they did together, and they certainly did see many different countries. They cruised all around the Mediterranean, around Britain, through the Norwegian Fjords, and down the Nile to name but a few. They saw some incredible sites but the one that Mum was most in awe of was witnessing the midnight sun in the Arctic circle. Sadly, this is to be her last journey but one she does with

**The Eulogy written and read  
by her family at her funeral**

The logo for Christian Aid, featuring the word "christian" in white lowercase letters on a red background, and the word "aid" in large white lowercase letters on a red background, tilted upwards to the right.

Our recent Christian Aid  
Coffee Morning at  
Third Avenue, raised  
**£393.46**

Thank you to all  
who supported this  
important cause



Thank you all very much for continuing to support the homeless people in our area. I have taken over 200 pairs of socks and many items of warm clothing to Medway Angels and they are always extremely grateful for everything. Even as the weather improves the nights are still cool, especially when you are sleeping in doorways. It is shocking that so many are living on the streets and I will continue to take your gifts and thank you again. God Bless

**Sally**



# CHRYSALIS

## Chair Based Exercise Class

Every Friday | 12.30pm to 2.30pm

*Chair exercise starts at 1pm*

Do you suffer with arthritis,  
fibromyalgia, chronic pain  
or general aches & pains?

*If the answer is yes to any of these  
then this group could be perfect for you!*

*We offer gentle exercise, relaxation  
and chance to chat over a cup of tea or coffee.  
Based at Third Avenue Church & Community,  
Gillingham ME7 2LU*



For more information  
contact June  
on 07443 410222



# Benevolent Fund

People, often ask how do we use the money from the second offering on a communion Sunday?

Simple answer....

Third Avenue Church & Community, in keeping with its Biblical and Charitable aims, has a Benevolent Fund. The Fund is totally separate from our tithes and offerings.

On a communion Sunday, we often take a second offering where all the money goes to this Benevolent fund. From time to time the church may also receive one off donations to this fund as well.

This fund is retained by the church and made available to the minister to distribute at their discretion in response to needs that they encounter within the church community. So anyone from our church community finding themselves in circumstances which are detrimental to their health and well being - may be eligible.

Funds are paid to the source of the need. Typical needs may include, rent payment, Food, clothing, transportation and other miscellaneous items. All support is provided completely confidentially

We hope this explains the 'mystery' of the second offering during communion.



## Calling all Tradesmen & women

I am sure you will all appreciate that Third Avenue requires a large degree of maintenance throughout the year.

At the last meeting of the Finance & Property Group it was suggested that a list should be prepared of any members of the congregation who may be able to assist with the general maintenance jobs, as and when they arise. We may well just be seeking advice on the best way to tackle any jobs, as well as asking for volunteers to help.

We do currently have a list of contractors that we call on where more specialised work is necessary, for example the recent repairs to the roof of the community hall and the office. If anyone knows of a contractor for all trades that they feel would be beneficial for Third Avenue then please let me know

Additionally, if anyone is able to recommend suppliers, preferably local, of general items such as cleaning, janitorial, stationary items etc that would be appreciated.

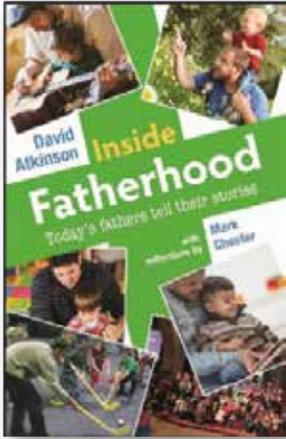
My contact details are as follows:

**procurement@gillinghammethodists.uk**  
**07565 105520**

or please feel free to speak to me at any time

**Jim Hancock | Procurement Steward**

# Book & Film reviews... *from Parish Pump*



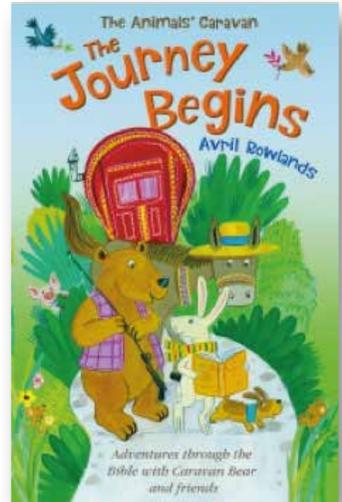
## **Inside Fatherhood: Today's fathers tell their stories** **David Atkinson, with reflections by Mark Chester | £6.99**

What does fatherhood look like today? As we prepare to celebrate Father's Day later this June, ten fathers tell their moving, real-life stories: from stepdad to absent dad, through widowed, adoptive and midlife dad, to losing-it and stay-at-home dad, they sit in their kitchens and bare their souls to writer David Atkinson, himself the father of two young daughters.

It's easy to believe that today's dads are in crisis, weighed down by economic pressures, shifting family dynamics, mental stress and emotional strain. But for all the challenges of modern fatherhood, Mark Chester believes we are living in 'a golden age of fatherhood'.

'Fathers are expected, and given permission, to get involved with the lives of their kids more than ever. It's a great opportunity for men to seize that moment and be a bigger part of their lives. But,' he adds, 'they face an identity crisis. Men were traditionally both the breadwinner and the light relief at the end of the day but, as that role has changed, they must seize the opportunity to change their identity as fathers within society.'

## **The Journey Begins - Adventures through the Bible with** **Caravan Bear and friends | Avril Rowlands** **Lion Children | £6.99**



"Christopher Rabbit stared at the parcel. Someone had sent him a present! He tore open the wrapping and inside was a book with the words "The Bible" on the cover... with a label "Read Me". As Rabbit wonders at this odd present, a brightly painted gypsy-style caravan hurtles down the road... and narrowly misses him. Rabbit picks up the book and joins the caravan travellers – Hector the horse, Caravan Bear and Whitby the dog – on their adventures".

Enjoy Rabbit's storytelling along the way, interrupted with frequent questions from the travellers and other animals they meet. What did Adam and Eve talk about to God? Why didn't the animals eat each other on Noah's Ark? How did Jonah come out of the whale? The Animals' Caravan has echoes of children's classics such as *Wind in the Willows* and *Alice in Wonderland*, as the caravan travellers form a great friendship on their journey together.

**Food for the Soul Book Club:** Our next meeting is on 5th June 2018 at 7.30 pm and we will be reading *What's So Amazing About Grace?* | Phillip Yancey. For more information speak to Mandy Harris or Jenny Silver.



## MOVIE MOMENTS

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

# Forgiveness and restoration

It is clearly coincidental, but perhaps providential, that *Paddington 2* was released whilst the media has been driving the #MeToo hashtag. We continually read new salacious stories revealing people's hidden depths of wickedness, with an implicit expectation that we should now vilify and exclude them. Then, along came *Paddington 2*, with its heart-warming story of a little bear who looks for the hidden depths of goodness in vilified and excluded people, with the explicit expectation that they should be recognised as part of the society which we all share.



The film's storyline is simple, but beautifully developed. Paddington is working hard as an accident-prone window cleaner to earn enough money to buy a pop-up book from an antiques shop to give to his aunt for her birthday. However, the book contains a secret message about the location of hidden treasure, and the villainous Phoenix Buchanan (Hugh Grant) steals it away. Wrongly convicted of Buchanan's crime, Paddington is sent to prison, where he faces the violent Knuckles McGinty (Brendan Gleeson).

Many children's films operate at two levels: obvious visual slapstick for young viewers, and subtle verbal humour for adults. *Paddington 2* has a much more connected integrity, with an underlying message for young and old. As much as many of us have been hurt, in different ways, by the wicked behaviour of other people, there is good in everyone. And, as much as evil within people's hearts must be recognised and repented, the goal must be forgiveness and restoration. Many films utilise a redemptive story-arc for key characters. *Paddington 2* applies this to everyone. And, thereby, has an important message for us all.



**ETHOS  
MEDIA.org**

EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

## The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's  
lives may be,

I go and lie down where the wood drake  
rests in his beauty on the water, and the  
great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives with  
forethought of grief.

I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light.

For a time I rest in the grace of the world,  
and am free.

By **Wendell Berry**

From **Celtic Daily Prayer Book**

## *A Message from Heather*

*I am so very grateful for the many  
messages, gifts and cards received over  
the last few weeks.*

*In particular, your prayers are a source  
of much comfort and strength as my  
treatment continues.*

*Derek joins me in sending love and  
heartfelt thanks.*

# Hartlip

## Methodist Church & Retreat Centre

As usual we have had a wide variety of styles of services and preaching during the last month. One of the strangest connections between the two ministers who preached was that they both made reference in their sermons to being table tennis players.

We were visited by Ernest Slarks, a preacher of 70 years standing as well as Elena Markova one of our more recently qualified local preachers. She introduced us to an icon which took up the theme of that week's reading. Elena recently completed a degree relating to Christian art so this her area of expertise.

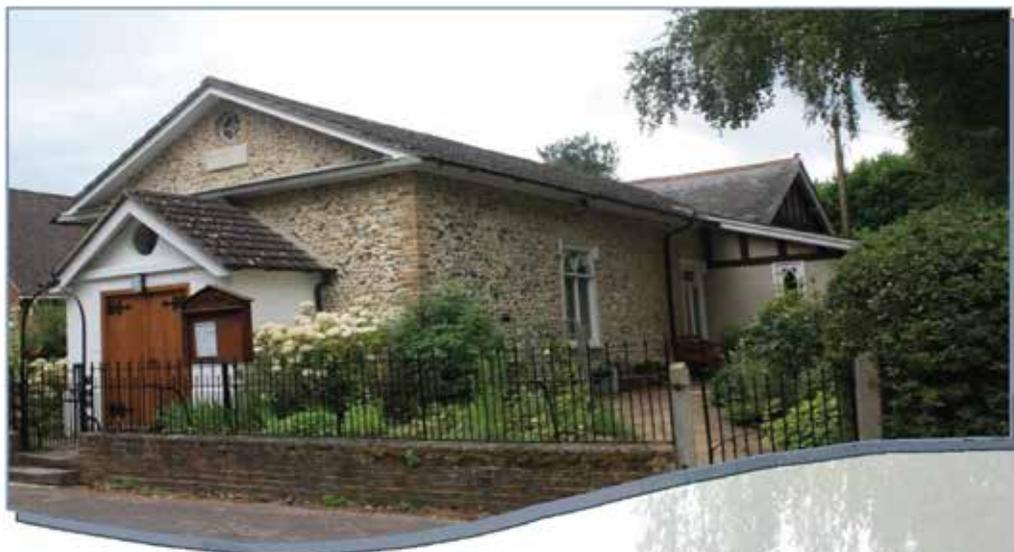
Finally Deacon Pru led us in the celebration of Pentecost, the morning that probably started as an ordinary morning but by 9 o'clock turned into something miraculous. She looked more at the way this reached people without trying to explain the inexplicable in the events. Would that so many could be reached in a single morning again.

Thanks to all those who joined us for our Spring tea. The weather was not altogether kind but those who came found space, either in the hall or the church, to enjoy their tea and sample the many cakes and scones. One of the highlights of things on sale were some beautiful quilted bags made by a friend of the church.

**The Strawberry Tea** takes place on **Saturday 7th July**, 2.30-4.30pm, with various stalls.

Before this is our **Church Anniversary** on **Sunday 10th June**. Celebrations begin at 4.30pm with tea before a 6.30pm service. Rev Melvyn Cooke will preach and during the service our very own Brian Davies will be recognised for his 60 years as a local preacher.

Margaret Bowerman



# Hartlip's Chapel Anniversary and Recognition Service

**Sunday 10th June**

4:30pm for Afternoon Tea

6:30pm for the Service led

by Revd Melvyn Cooke

Recognition of Mr Brian Davies' 60yrs as a Local Preacher

Hartlip Methodist Church, The Street, Hartlip, Kent, ME9 7TG



On **Sunday, 4th August 1918** King George V and Queen Mary joined members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords for a special service at the Church of Saint Margaret, Westminster. The King had asked that 4th August 1918, the fourth anniversary of the declaration of war, should be observed as a National Day of Prayer.

### **One hundred days later the war ended.**

Remembrance100 has been set up by HOPE, a UK Christian mission charity, in partnership with Christian denominations and ministries, including military chaplaincies, to help churches bring communities together to mark the centenary of the end of World War 1.

On 4th August 2018 churches across the country will start 100 days of prayer, peace and reconciliation. Church leaders, Christian charities, chaplaincies and ministries from Britain and the Commonwealth are providing prayers and suggestions for peace-making activities to be included in a book called 100 Days of Peace and Hope for Remembrance100, as this season is being called. The book can be used by individuals, churches and schools.

HOPE is also publishing a commemorative booklet called Silence for churches to give away at Remembrance Services.

Here are a few key dates:

**4th August:** this will be the first day of 100 days of prayer, running until Armistice Day in November. The book 100 Days of Peace and HOPE will be available from Remembrance100, with daily prayers and thoughts, plus peace-making ideas for communities to use each weekend.

**21st September:** the United Nations International Day of Peace and the launch of 2018 Peace Awards.

**5-9th November:** schools will mark a week of peace before the Remembrance weekend.

**11th November:** there will be Remembrance Services around the Commonwealth. Many will be followed by Peace Parties.

**December:** Peace Awards ceremonies will be held.

As details become available, the resources will be available on [www.remembrance100.co.uk](http://www.remembrance100.co.uk).

## An update from our Youth Worker...

I can't believe that we are quickly approaching the summer holidays, as I wrote this we have only about 8 weeks left of term. The last year has flown by and with regards to the youth ministry has been a mix of blessings and challenges. I thank God for all that he has done and is doing with our young people and ask your prayers as we look ahead to what God has in store. Please continue to pray for all our young people.

I am very excited to taking up the new role of being the **Youth Pastor** here at Third Avenue and for the Chinese Church. It will be a new and exciting challenge. I have loved living and working here for the last 4 years and am prayerfully seeking where God would lead us over the next 5 years.

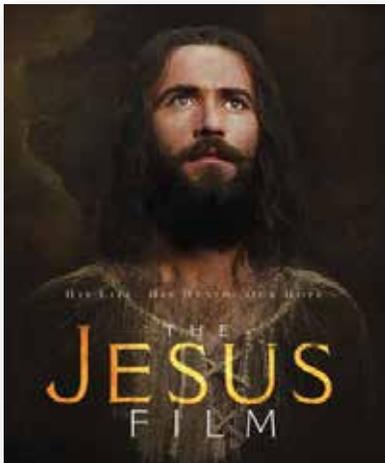
On a personal note, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone here. The last few months have been particularly difficult for me,



surrounding my Dad's illness. It has meant that I have been travelling back to Fordingbridge much more than I normally would. A huge thank you to everyone who has loved and supported me through what has happened and what is to come. I truly would not be able to go through this without the support of my church family – so thank you!

God Bless, **Helen x**

## Seen this best-watched film?



Parish Pump

If your recent experiences with social media have left your nerves feeling jangled, then leave it alone this coming weekend. Instead, why not try for an up-building exercise which will boost your mood and leave you feeling calm? Try a Film! Send for the DVD of the film that the Guinness Book of Records declares as the most watched film – secular or religious – in the whole of history...

Forget The Titanic. It is '**The Jesus Film**' – watched over 6 billion times and translated into 1,200 languages. Some 200 million people world-wide have declared themselves to have found personal faith and meaning in life, through watching it. Just google [agape.org.uk](http://agape.org.uk), then share it with friends....



# Our Family in UGANDA

During the Millennium celebrations in 2000 the Medway Churches hosted a Youth Band from Uganda and a number of families were able to take these young people into their homes for the period of their stay of three weeks. Mike and I, and our family, played host to Godfrey and Bosco, young Christian members of the band, out of Africa for the first and only time in their lives.

We have remained in close touch with them ever since and have been able to help them on many occasions.

The first time was when Godfrey and his young family were in danger of losing their home. A plea to our Church raised over £600 in a few days and they were able to build their own home.

Godfrey became a Youth Pastor and Bosco is a Pastor with his own Church.

In their part of Africa, famine and hardships are constantly present and over the years we have sought to help them through difficult times. We have been able to put Godfrey's two eldest daughters through school and some years ago, with the help of friends and our Church, we paid for a well to be drilled which serves two villages.

Both Godfrey and Bosco felt very blessed by an away giving donation from GMC several years ago and this money was used to further the work of their churches.

Recently both families have come to us with schemes to help themselves and to attempt to make their families more secure for the future.

Much as we want to help them our resources are limited and we are not getting any younger! (They have always believed that help has come from us and our Church!)

We received the following email on May 10th:

*“Dear Mike and family members, thank you for what you have sent. I received it with thanks, I said Almighty father continue blessing you. I have already bought one machine for tailoring and the machine is good (brand new).*

*NB: Sad news. My wife Enin is suffering from cervical cancer and they saying I should take her on Monday. She is in a critical condition. Please help me, I borrowed some money from my fellow leaders and some are remaining. Help me in prayer and support me. My children are okay. Send my greetings to all your family members.”*

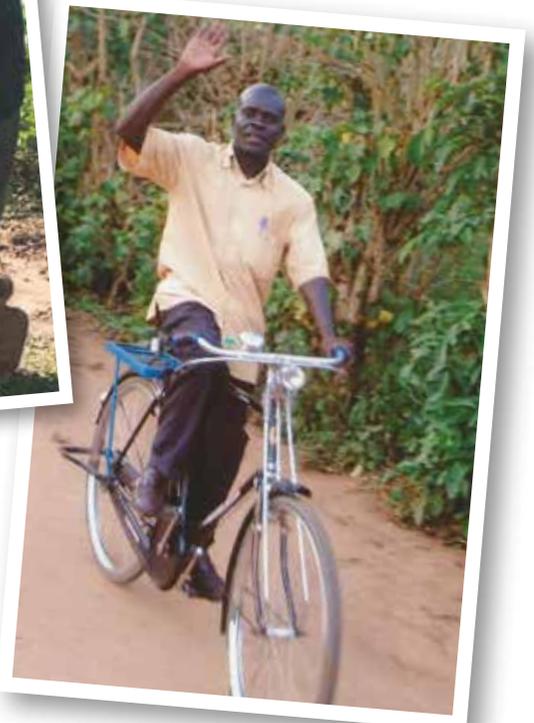
When we receive messages like this we know we can't just walk away, but must act as well as pray.

**Mike & Jenny Silver**

*Note from the editor: If you feel moved to help Mike and Jenny's family in Uganda, financially and/or prayerfully, please don't hesitate to speak to them both. Although they haven't asked personally your support would be much appreciated by all concerned.*



*Bosco, Enin & family*



*Thanks for the bicycle you  
sent for me & my family.  
Godfrey & Coster*



# ANNIVERSARY

## *Weekend*

Garden Party  
*with afternoon tea*

Sat 23 June  
3pm  
tickets £4

Anniversary  
Service & Gift Day

*with Rev Saju Muthalaly*  
*Vicar of St Mark's, Gillingham*

Sun 24 June  
10.30am



Third  
Avenue

CHURCH & COMMUNITY



## Ministry of Flowers

*If you would like to dedicate some flowers in memory of a loved one or for a special birthday or anniversary or simply to say thank you, then please speak to Mark. A donation of around £25 would be much appreciated.*

*And also, if you are a budding flower arranger your help with this important ministry would be much appreciated.*

## Emmeline Pankhurst Leader of the Suffragettes

Emmeline Pankhurst, leader of the British suffragette movement, died 90 years ago, on 14th June 1928. Less than a month later, women were given equal voting rights with men. Born in Moss Side, Manchester, in 1858, she helped found the militant Women's Social and Political Union in 1903, after the death of her husband. They became known as suffragettes to distinguish them from the more law-abiding suffragists, who included many Christians.

The suffragettes often attacked church buildings, because the Church of England as an institution was seen as opposing votes for women. Nevertheless, there were large numbers of Christians in the Church League for Women's Suffrage, which by 1914 had over 5000 members.

Mrs Pankhurst was arrested on many occasions and went on hunger strike, which led to violent force-feeding. But she ended her militancy at the outbreak of war, reasoning that it would be no good having the vote if her country ceased to exist. It was the use of female labour during the war that led as much as anything to their eventually obtaining the vote.

In 1926 Mrs Pankhurst surprised many people by joining the Conservative party; she was selected to run for Parliament shortly before she died.



A decorative border of strawberries with green leaves runs along the top and left sides of the poster. The strawberries are arranged in a slightly overlapping pattern.

Hartlip Methodist Church

# Strawberry Tea

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July

2:30pm – 4:30pm

Come along for  
tea, cakes, scones and stalls



Hartlip Methodist Church, The Street, Hartlip, Kent, ME9 7TG

 North Kent Methodist Circuit

# Farewell Service

for Deacon Pru  
Rev Gary Watt & Luzia Watt

A service of Celebration & Thanksgiving  
Sunday 8 July | 6pm



SITTINGBOURNE  
METHODIST CHURCH



# Farewell Concert for Pru



Saturday 21 July | 7pm  
Free admission

An evening of fun and fellowship  
saying a fond farewell to Deacon Pru

# Peter's Place Garden Party

Saturday 14th July 2018 at 2pm

£2.50 includes tea and cake

38 Larkfield Avenue, Gillingham

[www.petersplace.org.uk](http://www.petersplace.org.uk)



*Nigel Beeton writes: I love those little mottoes that you often see in tea rooms and such places.*

*On holiday a year or so ago we were in Sidmouth, and a motto in a café there read 'Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, but about learning to dance in the rain.'*

*I thought that was both wise and true:*

## Dancing in the Rain

We wait and hope for better times  
And pray for far less pain;  
We're waiting for the storm to pass  
Taking shelter from the rain.

But yet we wait for far too long  
And waiting seems in vain.  
The storms outside are stronger still  
We see torrential rain.

So wait not for the storm to pass!  
Come – see what joys we gain!  
By laughing 'neath those heavy clouds  
And dancing in the rain!

*By Nigel Beeton*



## Short prayers

Prayers don't need to be long to be acceptable to God. For instance, consider...

Peter | Matt 14.30  
A Canaanite woman | Matt 15.25  
Samuel | 1 Sam. 3:10  
Psalm 43.3

*Lord, save me.*

*Lord, help me.*

*Speak, for your servant is listening.*

*O send out your light and your truth;  
let them lead me; let them bring me  
to your holy hill and to your dwelling.*

Christians in later years  
have adopted the same form.

*Lord, make me see your glory in every place.*

*O God, give me strength.*

*O God, keep me from being difficult to live with.*

*Teach me to pray. Pray yourself in me.*

*O Lord, let us not live to be useless, for Christ's sake.*

Why not practise saying a simple sentence  
prayer of your own each day?

Every Tuesday in  
the Blue Room 1-3pm  
All are Welcome

Third Avenue  
CHURCH & COMMUNITY

## In Praise of Knitting

Knitting can be astonishingly good for you. This gentle hobby has been found to lower blood pressure, reduce depression, keep your mind alert, slow the onset of dementia, distracts from chronic pain (such as arthritis), boost well-being, and reduce loneliness.

A major study by the organisation Knit for Peace has found that knitting lowers the heart rate by an average of 11 beats per minute and induces 'an enhanced state of calm.' The repetitive movement also boosts calming serotonin, which lifts your mood and dulls any pain. Knitting also boosts the reward centres of

the brain, because it allows people to feel that they can still make a contribution to society.

In Britain, where the NHS spends more than £2 billion each year on blood pressure treatments, around £300 million on antidepressants, and about £26 billion on dementia, and unknown billions on various chronic pain, perhaps more people should take up knitting. As one expert says: *"Research has shown that there is a growing crisis in primary care. As a skilled and creative occupation, knitting has therapeutic potential. There is an enormous amount of research showing that knitting has physical and mental health benefits."*

*Our local preachers value your prayers as they preach in different Churches around the Circuit...*

**03 JUN COLIN WALDOCK**

**10 JUN MANDY HARRIS  
COLIN WALDOCK**

**24 JUN MANDY HARRIS  
BRIAN DAVIES  
TRISH ROB  
SARA CROUCH**

**01 JUL DEREK GALLAGHER  
SARA CROUCH  
JUDITH GERMAN  
COLIN WALDOCK**

**08 JUL MANDY HARRIS**

**15 JUL BRIAN DAVIES  
TRISH ROBB**

**22 JUL SARA CROUCH**

**29 JUL JUDITH GERMAN**

**STROOD**

**BURHAM  
DENE HOLM**

**ECCLES  
HOPE STREET  
NEWINGTON  
SITTINGBOURNE**

**BEARSTED  
ECCLES  
ST LUKE'S  
STOKE**

**SITTINGBOURNE**

**ST LUKE'S  
STROOD**

**STROOD**

**BURHAM**

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says:

*“When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.”* So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people

for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

*Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-16*

# LENDING A HELPING PAW

### My lovely Lola has so much love to give...

By Fluffy Christian, 55, from Wiltshire



I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.

My lovely Lola has so much love to give... I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.



**At first, she was sad, nervous, never left my side...**

My lovely Lola has so much love to give... I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.



Fluffy True-life

Popular pet! Lola by Fluffy Christian

My lovely Lola has so much love to give... I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.

**PLUS Pups to the rescue...**

My lovely Lola has so much love to give... I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.

**She visits the sick and elderly and their faces light up!**

My lovely Lola has so much love to give... I received your lovely issue in the post - thank you very much for it. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong. I'm a bit of a fan of yours and I'm glad to hear that you're still going strong.

## Lola News...

Hi everyone, hope you are enjoying this lovely weather. I am shedding my winter coat now as I must say it's been a bit warm under the collar. I've been busy since my last update as I am pleased to say that Trudy's foot is improving and getting better. Recently, we went to Charing House (by the park) and spent a lovely afternoon there with some of the residents. It was the first time I had been there and they asked us to come back, so I think it went well. it's very clean there but I do remember a few crumbs under one chair so I had best check them out again when I go back and when no-one is looking! Also, the magazine, Chat, wrote an article on how I met Trudy and about our journey together. It only seems yesterday that my life changed for the better. I am the luckiest dog in the world and would not want to change it for anything. Take care.

Woof ....woof.... love Lola x





# World Cup Fever

The former Liverpool Manager Bill Shankly famously said, 'Some people believe football is a matter of life and death, I am very disappointed with that attitude. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that!'

This month sees the start of the World Cup in Russia; a truly global event watched by billions on television. Yet this competition illustrates some key points about the Christian life.

As Paul writes:

*But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.'*

Philippians 3:13b,14

A prize to be won: The dream of every player in the competition is to be able to hold up the World Cup themselves. For us the prize is the eternal life, God's gift of

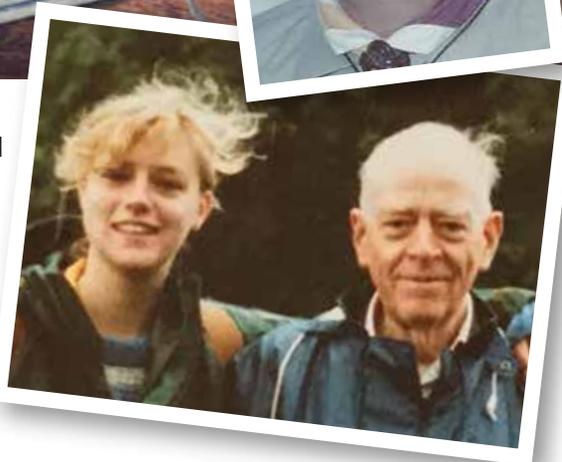
relationship with him for now and eternity through Jesus. But there's an important difference between football and the Christian faith. To win the World Cup you have to be good enough, while Christ's love for us is undeserved and is not dependent on how well we've done.

Training to be undertaken: If a team is going to win the World Cup, they have to train hard beforehand. Our training, as Christians, starts the moment we accept the gift of God's life. On a daily basis, we train ourselves to say no to the wrong things in our lives. As we build up our godly muscles we are better able to choose to do what is right in God's eyes. To enable us to do all this we need to engage in the spiritual disciplines of prayer, studying the Bible and being part of a church and small group. How is your training going?

Paul Hardingham | Parish Pump

# Father's Day

*Time to celebrate  
male role models*



In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing.

How will you celebrate it this year?

If your own father cannot be with you, is there a 'spare' father somewhere in your church or your circle of friends whose children cannot be with him, and who would welcome some special treat on the day?

How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave

*Top: Mark's Dad, Mervyn*

*Bottom: Ruthie and her Dad, Bob*

Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on

June 19, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day - a permanent, national holiday.

Today, Father's Day is a great time to celebrate any sort of male role models, like uncles or grandfathers, as well as dads. Certainly Father's Day has become a day for greeting card companies to rejoice, and sales of the most popular gifts for Dad (shirts, ties, and electric razors) increase considerably. Perhaps most telling of all, though, is how children continue to see their fathers: in America, for example, more 'collect calls' to home are recorded on Father's Day than on any other day of the year!



*Left: Helen's Dad, Mervyn  
Right: Paul's Dad, Richard*



*Note from Editor: Although I always celebrated Father's Day with my Dad, I had my cynical suspicions the day was created by American Card companies to raise more revenue..... until I read this article from Parish Pump! It's good to celebrate important Father figures in our lives and thank God for those, oh so precious, times with us. Mark*



### **How often should you cut your grass?**

That depends on how much you want to help the bees. It seems that the ideal 'gap' is two weeks. This helps improve the habitat for the pollinating plants that need bees to survive. Cutting the grass more often than every 14 days destroys dandelions and clover and other plants which the insects need for pollen.

Two weeks is ideal – it gives time for the grass to attract a greater diversity of insects.

The number of bee species and the abundance of lawn flowers were up to 2.5 times higher when home owners mowed lawns every two weeks compared to once a week.

Don't be a martyr, though – as three-weekly cuts are also not recommended. The high grass then makes it more difficult for bees and other insects to access flowers.

# Fun and Games...

## Word Search

Many of us know the song 'Day by Day' – the folk-rock ballad from the musical Godspell. It ran: Day by day, day by day, Oh dear Lord, three things I pray: to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day. But did you know that the lyrics are based on the prayer of Richard of Chichester, a bishop in the 13th century? Richard was greatly loved. He was charitable and accessible, both stern and merciful to sinners, very generous to those stricken by famine, and a brilliant legislator of his diocese. He decreed that the sacraments were to be administered without payment, the clergy to be chaste, and the laity to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days.

Richard was also prominent in preaching the Crusade, which he saw as a call to reopen the Holy Land to pilgrims, not as a political expedition. He died in 1253. In art, Richard of Chichester is represented with a chalice at his feet, in memory of his having once dropped the chalice at Mass!

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

day  
rock  
ballad  
musical  
godspell  
dear  
lord  
three  
things  
pray  
see  
clearly  
love  
dearly  
follow  
nearly  
bishop  
sinners  
generous  
famine  
sacraments  
laity  
crusades  
pilgrims  
chalice

# Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage?

*This quiz originally appeared in the East Leicester Fellowship of URC Churches. The books of the Bible, as they appear in the quiz, are as follows: Amos, Mark, Luke, John, Joel, Judges, Job, Hebrews, Esther, Acts, James, Ruth, Romans, Titus, Matthew, Genesis, Philemon (spelt Phillemon in quiz), Chronicles, Daniel, Nahum, Hosea, Lamentations, Revelation, Timothy, Samuel, Numbers, Malachi, Peter, Exodus, Kings.....good luck!*

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in

seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phil-Lemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books Timothy and Samuel appear without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

# Sudoku

*Easy...*

*Intermediate...*

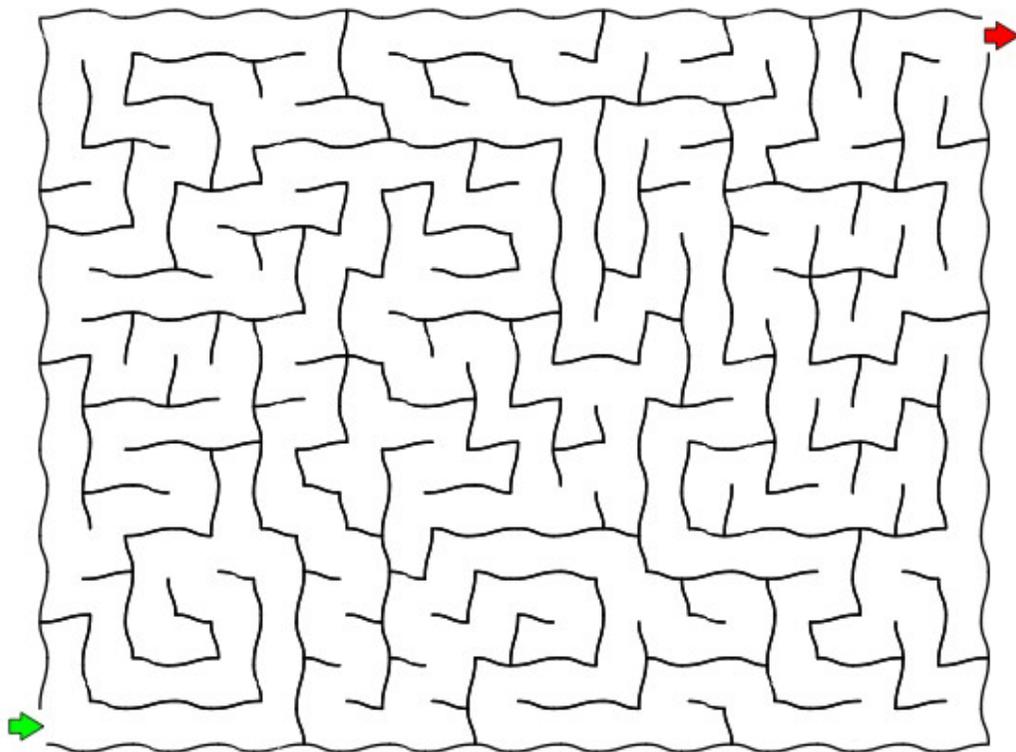
6	8							
		2					5	7
	5			7	2	3	8	
			7		1	9		
7	9		3	2	4		6	1
		4	5		8			
	1	3	6	4			9	
4	7					8		
							7	4

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

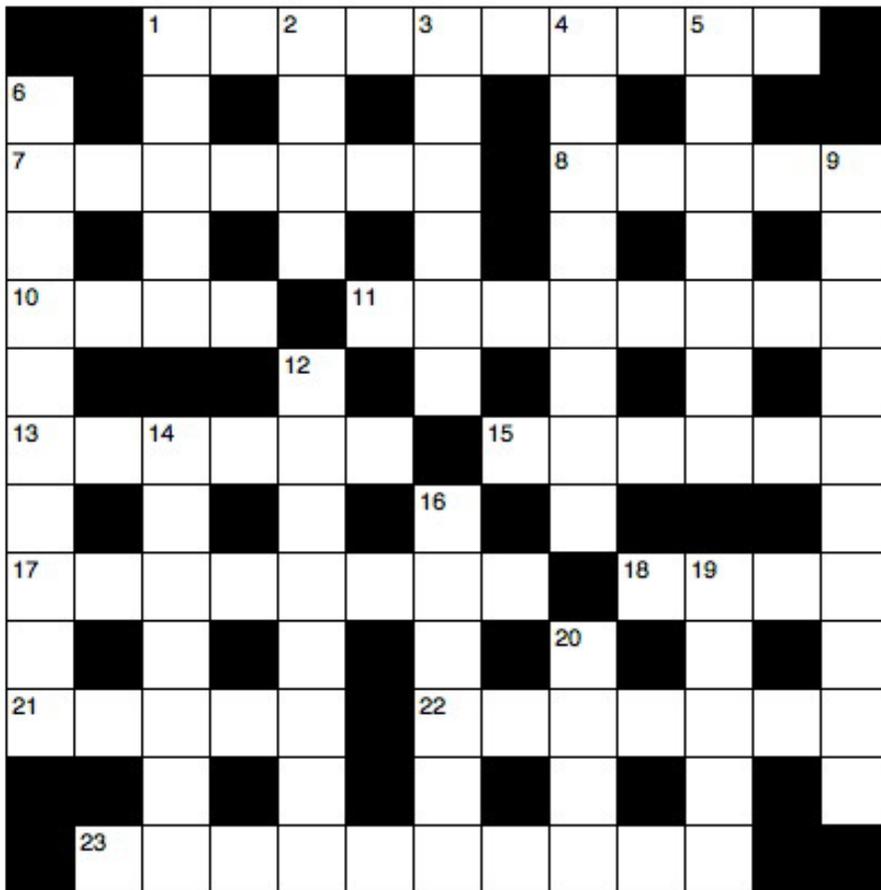
2				5				3
	9		6			7		
	5						4	
				8		3		
	3	7				2	6	
		1		9				
	2						3	
		6			4		9	
8			5					7

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

# Maze...



# Crossword



## Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5)(10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15)(7)
- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1)(5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—' (2 Corinthians 4:8)(4)
- 11 Fraud (2 Corinthians 6:8)(8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12)(6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34)(6)
- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1)(8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25)(4)
- 21 'As for man, his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15)(5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4)(10)

## Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16)(5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed'(4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.)(6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29)(8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46)(7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32)(10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3)(10) 12 Put in jail (Acts 22:19)(8)
- 14 Aceturn (anag.)(7)
- 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3)(6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23)(5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7)(4)

# Smile Lines

## Cat Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
I pray this cushy life to keep.  
I pray for toys that look like mice,  
And sofa cushions, soft and nice.

I pray for gourmet kitty snacks,  
And someone nice to scratch my back,  
For windowsills all warm and bright,  
For shadows to explore at night.

I pray I'll always stay real cool  
And keep the secret feline rule  
To NEVER tell a human that  
The world is really ruled by CATS!

Author Unknown

## Quiet

A Sunday school teacher asked her children, as they were on the way to church service, 'and why is it necessary to be quiet in church?'

One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'

## Seagull

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' the son asked.

'He died and went to Heaven,' the father replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'

## Blessing

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and asked her to say the blessing. 'I don't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you

hear Mummy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

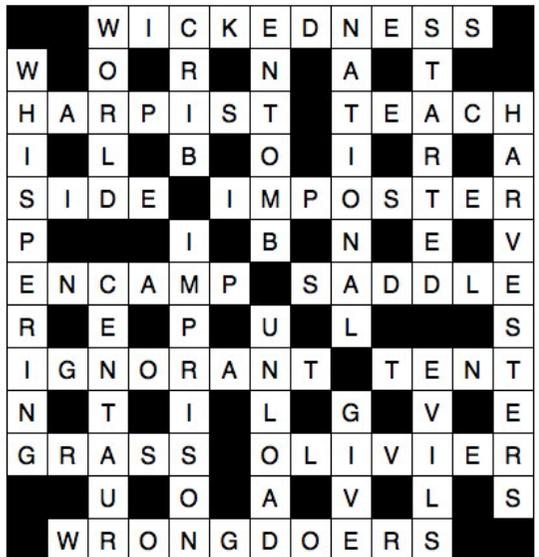
Parish Pump

# Puzzle solutions...

## Word Search...



## Crossword...



## Sudoku *Easy...*

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

## *Intermediate...*

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

### ANSWERS TO: Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage?

This is a **most** remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **John**-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**. **Elaine** Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving that **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. **Some** people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised.

**Truthfully from answers** we get, we are forced to admit **it usually** takes a minister or scholar to see some of them **at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phil-Lemonade** booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the **Chronicle**, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel** Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". **Those** able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books **Timothy** and **Samuel** appear without their **numbers**. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. **A chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass **exodus**, there really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

There is no charge for this magazine, but if you are able, a contribution of at least **60p** would help towards the cost of production and enable us to distribute to the wider community

**Many thanks**

