

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

# Trinity Tidings

September 2020

Special Harvest Edition!

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH  
CHURCHFIELDS, KIDDERMINSTER  
Telephone 01562 824450**

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**The closing date for items for the  
OCTOBER ISSUE  
of Trinity Tidings is Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:  
[arleystation@aol.com](mailto:arleystation@aol.com)**

Thanks to John Harris for designing the front and back covers

Dear Friends,

As I write, as well as hoping you've had a reasonably good summer period, I am also thinking about the potential impact of reopening some of our churches for worship.

Hopefully you will have started to hear about this, either through email, Trinity's website, Trinity's Facebook pages, the weekly mailing, or by word of mouth.

Apologies that much earlier notice couldn't be given, largely due to the ever changing and challenging situation we find ourselves in.

Our church building has been closed for worship for nearly six months now, and whilst I know that we have all missed the opportunity to come together in that way, many of us are also nervous about the consequences of what we propose to do. Some of us are still unable to gather physically with others because of underlying health conditions and the risks that would pose. Others of you may be less able to get to church six months on, and perhaps feel inclined to stay at home instead. Perhaps you feel it is just too early to consider meeting again in a relatively large group, given the restrictions we have to adhere to.

For any that do join us on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 10.30am and beyond (*please note, there will be only one service per Sunday*), the service will be quite different to the services we left behind at the Beginning of March.

For example, the service will last only for about 35 to 40 minutes, social distancing must be observed (seat arrangements will be spaced accordingly), everyone will be asked to wear a face mask, there will be no tea and coffee served afterward, along with other adaptations put in place to keep us all as safe as possible.

For those who cannot, or choose not to join us in person, the online recorded services will continue and some form of weekly reflection or meditation will also hopefully still be available.

However challenging this may feel to us all it is important to remember and to be reassured, that even though we may still be separated in one way or another, we remain part of God's family, united by our love of, and faith in, Jesus.

Therefore as these uncertain times continue, and as we take small steps to find where God might be leading us (especially as the onset of the winter months loom large), let us hold onto the promise that God is always with us, that God will never leave us, that God is present in everything. And let us not cling too tightly to past things, but put our trust in the Lord.

I leave you with the words of St Paul:

*"Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

*No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

*Romans Ch 8 Vs 35, 37-39*

Every blessing,

*Nick.*

# **PRAYER CORNER**

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Les Fuller, Margot Stanton, Nigel Galton, Lynn Jones, and others we know who need our love and prayers.

## **THANKS.....**

Mary Webber would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and good wishes on her 80th birthday. Also for the melodic singing outside her house.

## **CONGRATULATIONS.....**

We congratulate students who have done well in their A level exams.

Rebekah Collison is going to Keele University to study Midwifery.

Rachel Howles is going to Manchester University to study Geography with International Studies.

Lachlan McPhail is going to Liverpool John Moores University to study Building Surveying.

Holly Robins is hoping to go to Worcester University

We wish them every success in the future.

## SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

By the time you read this, you will have been informed that Trinity will be open for worship on a Sunday. We will be following all the Methodist and Government guidelines to ensure that we are as safe as possible.

There will be no evening service yet, and no Thursday service.

All services begin at 10.30am

Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Nick Collison
Sept 13 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Philip Bridgewater
Sept 20 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Nick Collison - Holy Communion
Sept.27 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Sue Levitt
Oct 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mr David Skitt - HARVEST FESTIVAL
Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Richard Goodman
Oct 18 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Nick Collison – Holy Communion
Oct 25 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Albert Wilkinson
Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Worship Group – ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
Nov 8 <sup>th</sup>	Mr Ray Simpson – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>	Rev Nick Collison – Holy Communion
Nov 22nd	Mr Mike Dernie
Nov 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mrs Sue Stinton – ADVENT SUNDAY

If you bring a gift for the Harvest Service, then please bring it on the previous Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> October (Non perishable gifts only). You may make a donation instead, and all produce and money will go to the Food Bank.



## **From the Editor....**

September already! The leaves are already beginning to change colour, and the swifts have flown back to Africa probably two weeks ago. The heavy rain recently together with the strong winds have not done the garden much good. After my previous tale about the 'thieving crow' I have to tell you of two other animal catastrophes. I came back from shopping the other Thursday to find that water was pouring under the utility door. (Utility is the 'posh' name for what was always called the scullery'.) In it is my washing machine. After minutes of kneeling in water, and getting the rest of me soaked I managed to turn off the water. Then I discovered that a mouse had bitten through the flexible pipe connecting the washing machine to the cold water feed. I then found that my friendly pheasant, the one who feeds from my hand, had walked into the greenhouse and got into a panic. It then flew up onto the staging, and repeated butted a glass pane which broke, then he flew out to freedom. Such gratitude after me feeding him every day!

On the other hand, have you noticed how many butterflies are about this year? I am not very good at identifying them, but I have counted at least eight different ones, especially around the buddleia bush. They really brighten up the day.

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You probably all know by now that Trinity is open again for worship on a Sunday with many safeguards in place. It will be good to worship together again.

Trinity Tidings will continue to be published on-line as at present, but there will be a smaller number of printed copies for you to collect from church. These may be available perhaps from November onwards. In the meantime many thanks to those of you who have been printing a copy off yourselves, and taking them to those not on the internet. They have been much appreciated.

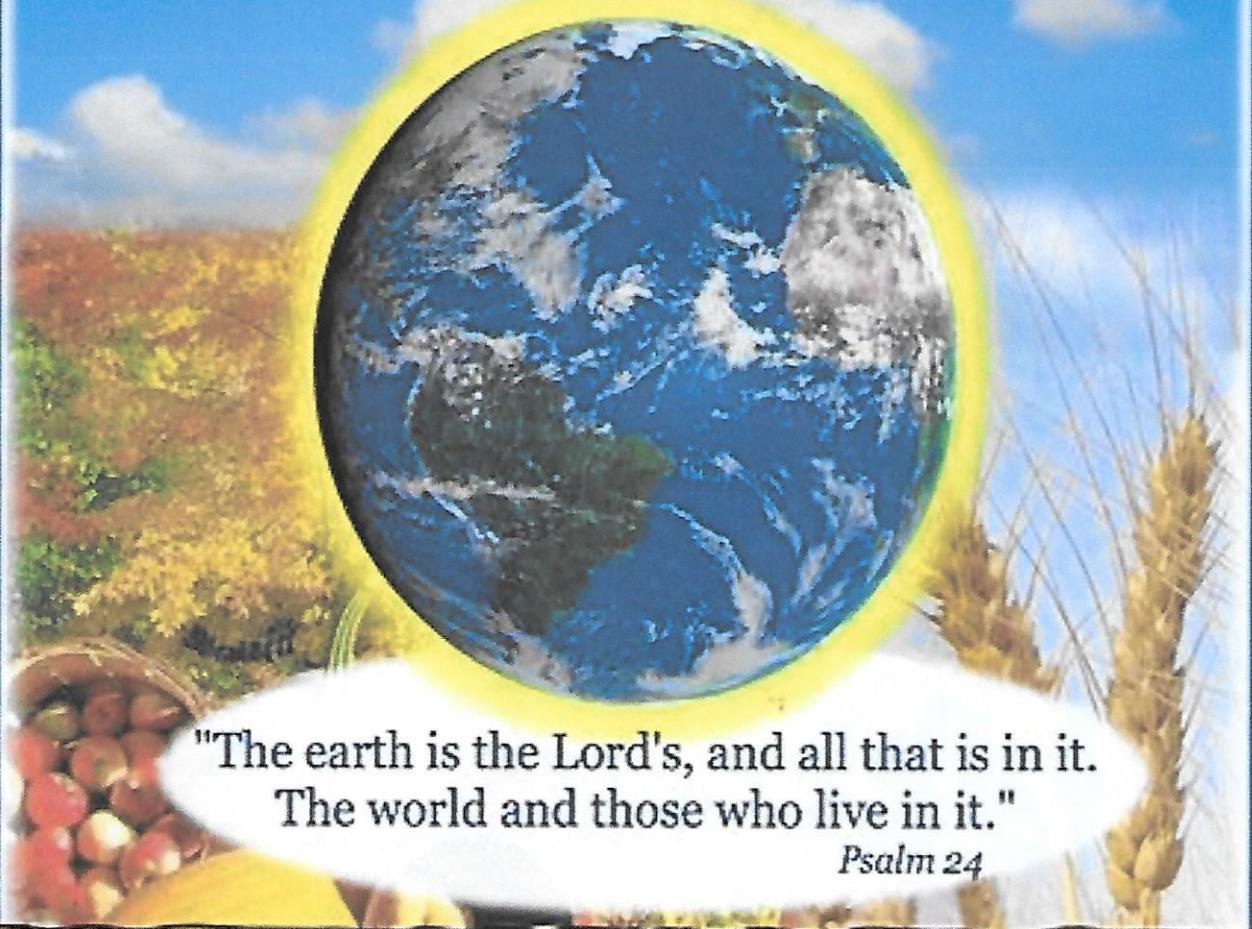
I would like to thank my grandson Jon Skitt, who has put all the pages on-line for us. I get them ready, and by some technical wizardry they appear on your screen. Thank you Jon.

Stay safe, stay well, knowing that we are safe in the hollow of God's hand.  
David

Trinity Methodist Church

# Harvest Festival '20

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
Harvest Service at 10.30am  
Led by Mr. David Skitt



**Harvest Gifts.** - As we celebrate 'Harvest' we would like to keep with our tradition of gifting non-perishable foods, that will be donated to the local Foodbanks. To do this within 'Covid' guidelines, we are asking that all food gifts are brought to church on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September and placed in the food boxes provided inside the main entrance. All gifts will be displayed in church just before Harvest Festival. If you would rather donate, there will be a plate at the back of church for this purpose.

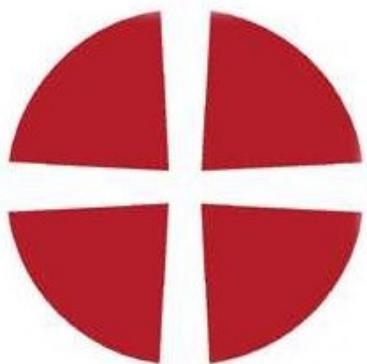
Unfortunately, there will be no Harvest Supper this year. However, Sarah Cobon is arranging **A Virtual Quiz on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October starting at 7pm.**  
Please See poster for full details.

# Quiz Night!

**Harvest Festival  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
7PM**

A fun night full of tantalising questions and virtual socialising.

If you would like to take part in the virtual quiz, please email Sarah ([sarah@cobon.co.uk](mailto:sarah@cobon.co.uk)) for the Zoom details.



**Offertories for the past four complete months are as follows**

Date	Envelopes &	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	Bank Transfer			
	£	£	£	£
April	291.00	Nil	2434.00	2725.00
May	745.00	Nil	2509.00	3254.00
June	1050.00	Nil	2534.00	3584.00
July	1105.00	Nil	2689.00	3794.00

Sunday services have been cancelled with effect from March 22<sup>nd</sup> due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Some of our members in the envelope scheme have given by bank transfer instead.

In the current church year to 31 August 2020 the estimated amount of offertories needed to meet expenses is £1100 per week. This is after taking into account all other income such as rental income from the church flat, rooms and car park hire fees, Gift Aid tax refunds, bank interest and sundry income.

**Smile Lines**

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation." "Maybe," admitted the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But," the politician pointed out in triumph, "somebody had to have created the chaos in the first place!"

\*\*

A second year student explaining to a first year student how to write essays: "When you take stuff from one writer, it's plagiarism, but when you take it from many writers, it's called research."

\*\*

A sure way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

\*\*

**Quotes**

There is just one way to bring up a child in the way he should go, and that is to travel that way yourself. – *Abraham Lincoln*

\*\*

My advice, if you insist on slimming, is to eat just as much as you like but just don't swallow it. – *Harry Secombe*

## **An update on the Rwandan project: .....**

The church project to support the people in Rwandan villages is due to end very soon, as our new project begins in September. We have just received the following letter by email from Anastase, of the Peace, Healing and Reconciliation Programme (PHARP) regarding recent land purchase, and their gratitude for our support.

The final year of this project was intended to raise money to purchase a flour grinder, and materials to construct a shelter for it, in the village of Rukambura for the villagers to use. They will also be able to sell the service to other villagers, thereby raising income.

Obviously the virus has disrupted our fundraising in the last six months, and some people who have been unable to donate in the normal way may wish to contribute before the end of the project.

This can be done by bank transfer (please contact Iestyn Davies, Treasurer, for details), or by cheque payable to Trinity Methodist Church, sent either to us or to Iestyn. Alternatively, if cash is preferred, please call us on 01562 745714 and we can arrange to collect it.

Please contact us if you would like any further information.

Many thanks for your support.

Lynne and Phil Harris "

*Dear Phil,*

*Grace and Peace from Christ be with you all at Trinity Church.*

*We are pleased to let you know that yesterday August 12<sup>th</sup> we were able to purchase a piece of land for the Cyungo reconciliation community. It is not a big land as we had wished because it is about 1500 square meters, but it is a good land and is easily accessible to our people.*

*We had continued to search for land without success as land became scarce and very expensive. The opportunity we got was of a family which had a debt to pay to a local bank and somebody helped us to get into contact with them.*

*We have paid equivalent of US dollars 3000 and we will continue to look for another piece of land with the remaining money to add on this one.*

*Our people will start working on this land next February because somebody had paid money for lease until January. When we are done with the transfer at the land office, I will get a picture of it for you.*

*Once again we are very grateful for your support to the work of PHARP with hope that this land will be a blessing to the Cyungo community.*

*Here we continue to battle with COVID-19 and its bitter consequences as many activities including schools and many churches are still closed.*

*PHARP's work has been affected especially sewing activities which help many vulnerable young girls and single women. Now that all schools across the country are closed, our sewing places remain closed as they operate as schools.*

*We trust in God who knows how this pandemic will come to an end.*

*May The Most High be with you all and bless you.*

*Anastase.*

## **Do you know the Fictitious Addresses of various characters on TV or in books**

1. Where did Tony Hancock live in 'Hancock's Half Hour'?
2. Who lived in Downton Abbey?
3. In which fictitious town is the 'Swallow Bank'?
4. Where did Harry Potter go to school?
5. In which house was Hudson the butler, and Mrs Bridges the cook?
6. Who went to live in the Jamaica Inn?
7. In which village does David Archer live?
8. Where does Elizabeth Archer live?
9. Where did Christopher Robin's friends live?
10. In Daphne Du Maurier's novel where did Rebecca live?
11. In which town was 'Under Milk Wood' set?
12. In which town is Coronation Street?
13. Where did Thomas the Tank Engine live?
14. On which island did Gulliver get washed up in a storm?
15. Where did Sherlock Holmes live?
16. Where did Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde live?
17. In which seaside town was 'Jaws' set?
18. Where did Noddy live?
19. Where did Maria look after seven children in 'The Sound of Music'?
20. In 'Wind in the Willows' where did Mole live?
21. Where did the railway children live?
22. Where did The Clangers live?
23. Where did The Wombles live?
24. Where did Delboy and Rodney Trotter live?
25. Of which country was Hamlet a prince?
26. Where did Albert and Harold Steptoe live?
27. Where did Batman live?
28. In Dallas, where did the Ewing family live?
29. Where did Miss Marple live?
30. Where did Paddington Bear live when he arrived from Darkest Peru?

And one 'bonus' more obscure question:  
Where, in John Buchan's novel, were the 39 Steps?

(Not Scotland, or London, and definitely not in Big Ben!)

## GARDENING NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

Where did the summer go?

Anti-cyclonic conditions in September can be absolutely glorious, although lengthening hours of darkness allows more time for heat loss through radiational cooling; those characteristic dewy and chilly early autumn mornings re-appearing.

The sun, although beginning to lose its intensity as it sinks lower in the sky on its way toward the equator, is still quite powerful and is still capable of producing substantial evaporation from the surface. This loss of surface moisture will cause us gardeners a problem if we haven't received some appreciable rainfall during August. Strong sunshine, moist soil, light winds, clear skies, radiational cooling, coupled with longer hours of darkness, are a recipe for the formation of shallow mists and fogs in the valleys and hollows.

Our Severn Valley is a prime example of the meteorological phenomena known as 'ponding', where mist and fog forms in the river basin. The upper slopes remain relatively mild as cooler air drains into the valley, heat radiating away from the valley bottom. Arley is a typical example, where a marked temperature change can be experienced on a walk down the lane to the river's edge, even ground frost is possible by the end of the month; the end of the month being more akin to Autumn than late summer. An Arctic blast, although rare, is not unheard of.

The fact that the Greenland ice sheets are now at their maximum summer retreat means that any polar maritime flooding southeast over the Atlantic has a longer sea track and hence less of a source of low level cooling, the air stream characteristically showery, as it moves over the relatively 'warm' North Atlantic.

Whether the meteorological conditions are settled and fine, or unsettled and blowy, there are a number of tasks which require attention before 'real autumn arrives in October.

Don't be too hasty to consign summer flowering hanging baskets to the compost heap as, with a little bit of TLC, it is possible to extend their life well into September. It is quite possible that the growth has become thin and straggly; regular deadheading will help, although more drastic methods may be necessary! Trimming back plants quite hard and removing all open and emerging flowers completely will allow the plant to regenerate rather than producing unwanted seeds. To induce fresh growth immediate feeding with a balanced liquid fertiliser once a week will be beneficial. Switch to a weak solution of high potash feed to promote flowering. Feeding not only produces further growth and flowering, it maintains a healthy basket, hindering the development of mildew and limiting damage from pests.

Whilst on the subject of hanging baskets, it's time to consider planting up a winter flowering variety. It is best to get winter flowering baskets planted up as soon as possible as this will allow the plants to get established early, promoting a healthy root system before the onset of colder weather. Planting up later in the month, or even October, is okay but will not allow the development of flower buds to the same extent as those made up earlier. Use compost which is free draining, using an ericaceous mix if you're thinking of planting heathers in the basket. As the basket will be slower to develop than its summer cousin, you can plant up your selected varieties closer together than you would normally.

Popular choices for planting would be Ivy, primroses, heathers, pansies, hebe, skimmia and euonymus. Add spring bulbs as well for that extra splash of colour. Winter flowering baskets, as well as being a useful source of colour, are relatively low maintenance, watering only when exceptionally dry and avoided when frozen solid! When thawed out, re-commence watering, especially in cold, windy conditions.

The herbaceous border will be showing signs of 'autumnal collapse' and it is now that foliage will be turning brown and yellow, requiring removal as soon as possible; varieties such as sedum, less so. Any material that isn't diseased with black spot or rust can be composted; otherwise it should be burnt.

Autumn is a good time to inspect the lawn for damage and to undertake repairs. The removal of 'thatch' is vital if it is not to build up to a level where it will restrict the penetration of water; use a spring tine rake to remove the build-up. Compacted areas will require aerating with a garden fork to 'spike' over the lawn, spacing about 6" apart will be adequate. Aerating is usually only necessary about every 3 years, every 4 years on heavier soils when a hollow tine aerator should be used to extract plugs of soil from the lawn. The area should then be top dressed to fill the hollow-tine plugs to assist with drainage and aeration. A simple mixture of top-dressing can be made up with 3 parts sandy loam, 6 parts sharp sand and 1 part compost/leaf mould, all by volume, applied 2-3kg per sq.m.

Plant daffodils by the end of September to ensure that a good root system develops whilst the ground is still warm.

Hardy annuals such as limnanthes, poppies and calendula can all be sown directly in situ for early summer flowering. Herbaceous can still be planted whilst the ground is moist and relatively warm. Hang fire until the first frosts blacken the foliage of Dahlias and Cannas before lifting.

Perennial weeds can be given an application of glyphosate, the killing power of the weed killer being taken down into the roots throughout the autumn into the winter. Remember though, keep off all other leaf or green growth as it is non-selective - otherwise it's dead!

Quite a lot to do here, so keep busy! Enjoy your garden; it's the only one you've got.

Bob



### Smile Lines

There are only two things a child will share willingly - communicable diseases and mum's age.

A man was registering at the doctor's surgery near his new home. Asked for his complete name, he replied: 'Peter John O'Dear Sullivan.'

The receptionist repeated it slowly. 'Your third name is very unusual – some family connection, I suppose?'

'Oh no,' sighed the man. 'Nothing like that. I was given the third name when the vicar dropped me in the font.'

*From a church news sheet:*

The church council meeting on Tuesday will be gin with prayer.

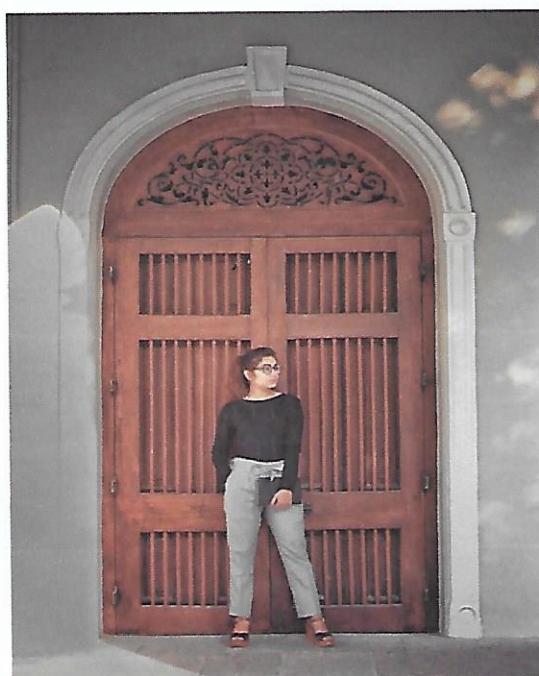
*One of our friends from another church sent this poem. There will be others in later months*

### **The Closed Door**

"Knock and the door shall be opened."  
Lord, You promised to answer my knock!  
But my knuckles are bruised from my rapping,  
And my path is an endless roadblock.  
My life seems to stall as I search for a way,  
My rising hopes fall every struggling day;  
I strive for a purpose, a meaning, a key,  
An escape from my cell. Where am I meant to be?

"My child," said the Lord, when I'd listen,  
"You're waiting outside the wrong door!  
"You're standing too close to see clearly,  
"And your pushing will hinder you more.  
"Surrender your self and I'll show you the way,  
"Turn away from your strife, learn to trust and obey;  
"When your ego subsides, I can give you a view  
"Of a room in My mansion, prepared just for you."

SW



### Lockdown part ?

For over 800 years our churches were open to all. It only took a minute for Boris to close them. We can all moan about the lockdown but if you're reading this, we've almost made it. At least we didn't have to listen to Donald Trump, drinking bleach on his own private road to Domestos. One size fits all was probably wrong in some cases. Being over 70 many of us had to give up the Foodbank for 12 weeks, but I'm going back. Face masks? I'm profoundly deaf and need to lip read. I once tried to lip read a ventriloquist's dummy then realised it was better to watch the ventriloquist whose lips never stopped moving.

Now for the good times: I haven't worn a pair of trousers for 4 months. My old foodbank and Trinity mate, Derek Austin, would be proud of me in my shorts, though I will admit he's got the better legs. Also, I haven't had a haircut for 7 months. I'm ready to audition as a shepherd in a nativity play and quite happy to be a disciple in next Easter's Passion Play. Spare a thought for the actors in the Oberammergau Passion Play. It has been held up indefinitely but they don't wear wigs so some of the cast have been growing their hair for 2 years!

Things are getting back to normal and shops are opening. I love bookshops but you can't browse through the books. "You can't judge a book by looking at the cover" the song says, and that's probably right, well almost. Just look at the cover of any Bible and you know what it means. Just 5 letters and you know you've got a treasure trove of stories, facts, information, history, life and death but mostly, Hope. That's what we all need. You don't need to flick through it before you buy it, you know what you're getting. Shame there's no authors picture on the fly cover but there you are.

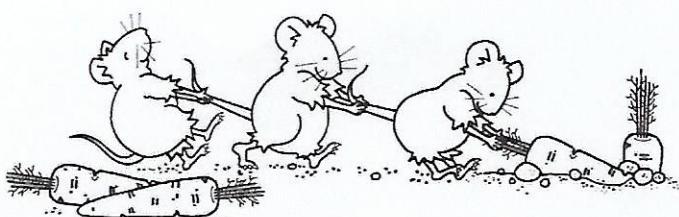
So what is it? Forget the fact they shut down your church during lockdown, this book is the place to come to. If you want to hear God's voice pick up your Bible, read and listen, this is the place to come. Many people think it's just a book of facts and figures, a reference book. Yes, it's that, but more so a book that teaches us how to live our lives, to live how God wants us. It's a book that can transform our lives. It shows us how lives have reacted through the centuries and points us on the way to our futures.

So how are you supposed to read it? Treat it like a novel, the latest best seller. Ok, you won't understand it when you start, but you will when you finish. I make it sound like you should read it from cover to cover but that's not the way to do it. I wouldn't be surprised that during lockdown someone has actually read the Bible all the way through. They had the time. The thing that amazes me is the fact that it's the biggest selling book in the world, surely we've all got one. Bought the hardback, bought the paperback, how come it hasn't been serialised in The Guardian? But that's the Bible, the book that my mother gave me, to last my whole life through.

So you can judge a book by looking at the cover, and that book is The Bible.

*Mike*

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)



## LOCKDOWN BY NUMBERS

There are 66 books in The Bible and all have beautiful names, mostly after their writers, but numbers, where did that come from? Of course, it mainly means a census and plays a big part in The Bible. It is one of the first 5 books in The Bible, known as the Pentateuch, basically it was one of the books of law. There is not a great deal of spiritual teaching in the book of Numbers; however, it is worth reading simply to see how God can make meat appear in the desert, bring water from a rock and most of all speak through a donkey. The last is a story loved by children because it always comes under the title of “Balaam’s Ass”, that’s the way to get the Sunday school giggling. No, I use the book of Numbers to describe what we have all become during this terrible pandemic. We have all become a number, simply that and when it’s all over we’re going to have to regain our identities or we’ll lose them forever. Money is being splashed around everywhere by our Government but none to our small churches who rely on the weekly collection; could they go bust?

At least the churches are to open, but no singing. Stand up and be counted. Every member of the congregation brings a plastic bowl. It’s filled with water and 2 metres apart, of course, everybody swashes their hands. The NHS says to wash them by singing “Happy Birthday”. However, we will sing a Hymn. 5 hand washes during a sermon and you’ve got your morning service. Amen. Incidentally, hand washing has become the most prevalent deterrent to the corona virus during this pandemic. Austro-Hungarian doctor Ignaz Semmelweiss became the first person in 1850 to realize that washing of hands in hospitals and infirmaries dramatically reduced the spread of infection on the wards. Sadly, soon after this discovery Dr. Semmelweiss died from a cut on his hand. It’s true, you couldn’t make it up.

So when churches open, get in. Be one of the numbers, put your name in a hymn book and restore your faith. We’ve all been overwhelmed with sadness and grief but it is not God punishing us. Jesus took all that for us when He died on the cross. Lockdown’s been tough but think of our friends the Jehovah’s Witnesses, everyone’s been at home but they can’t get on the doorstep! Read the book of lamentations to know what pain, sorrow and suffering is. Our religions and Christianity will come through. I leave you with a line from Lamentations Ch. 3 v23:

“Great is your faithfulness”

*Mike*

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

## OH NO IT ISN’T

Looks like there’ll be no pantomimes this year owing to the corona virus. They date back to around 1750, most of them based on old folk stories or fairy tales. I like to think that “Jack and the Beanstalk” was based on the Old Testament story of David and Goliath, it seems to fit. In fact, giants play a big part in The Bible, take Moses for instance. While looking for the land of milk and honey they came upon a country where “all the people we saw there are of a great size. We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes and we looked the same to them” (Numbers 13 v32-33). None other than Joshua, of course, who was always raising an army and fighting everyone; giants, no problem. Incidentally, on one occasion he had too many men to make up an army. He said to God “What do I do?” “Take them down to the water to drink” said God “Those who kneel to drink, let them go”. You think that ‘taking the knee’ is something new? Read your Bible.

But to get back to Jack and the Beanstalk or David and Goliath as I know it. David and Goliath shows us how the meek can inherit the earth. There is a message here. No man should be weakened by immeasurable odds, never feel downtrodden. Be brave and have the will to achieve. Look how a small shepherd boy overcame a giant, how he overcame a handicap. By perseverance man can overcome anything.

I finish this with something that should be in Smile Lines. David and Goliath, well Jack and the Beanstalk. 70's, 80's Birmingham Hippodrome: Cilla Black is Jack. Chops down the beanstalk and stands with sword in her hand, foot on the giant. "What shall I do with him" she calls to the audience. "Kill him, kill him" they shout. "And how shall I kill him?" she says. One little voice comes from the crowd "Sing to him".

Sheer magic. Cilla Black, you're my world, Rest in Peace. Amen

## *Mike*

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

### *Mike's Smile Lines*

2 men are driving along and a police car comes behind them. "Blimey" says Fred "are their lights on?". His mate hesitates for a minute then says "Er ..... Yes,No, Yes,No, Yes,No.

\*\*

Job Interviewer: I'll just ask you a couple of questions on general knowledge to see how alert you are. Tell me on Francis Drake's 3 voyages around the world, which one did he die?

Candidate: Could you ask me another subject, I'm not too good with history.

\*\*

Putting her groceries away after shopping a woman goes mad when her young daughter tips a box of animal crackers over the table. "What are you doing?" say's her mother "look at the mess". "Well it says on the box 'do not eat if the seal is broken' and I'm looking for the seal".

\*\*

A mouse potato is the on-line generation's answer to the couch potato.

\*\*

An old man of 80 joins the keep fit class at his local senior citizen's club. "You know Tom" said his instructor "you don't look a day over 50, how do you do it?"

"I put it down to lack of stress" says Tom, "you see in our early days of marriage the wife and I decided that if we ever had an argument she would go into her bedroom and I would go into the garden".

"I see" said the instructor "but how do you think that has helped?"

"Well" said Tom "for the past 50 years I've been living almost permanently out in the fresh air".

\*\*

A soldier is telling his friends that his sister has just enlisted in the army disguised as a man. "Hold on a minute, won't she have to shower and change with the other blokes?" one man points out. "Probably" says the soldier with a wink, "but who's going to tell".

\*\*

A man finds a genie in a bottle and is granted 3 wishes. He asks for a sports car and gets it. He asks for a large house and gets it. Finally, he asks to be made irresistible to women and turns into a box of Cadburys Milk Tray.

**PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE WORDING AND SPELLING.**

*If you know the bible, even a little, you'll find this hilarious! It comes from a school test.*

**Kids were asked questions about the old and new testaments. The following statements about the bible were written by children. They have not been retouched or corrected, incorrect spelling has been left in.**

- 1 In the first book of the bible, Guinness, god got tired of creating the world so he took the sabbath off.
2. Adam and eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of ark. Noah built and ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
5. Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.
6. Samson slayed the philistines with the axe of the apostles.
7. Moses led the jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.
8. The egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards Moses went up to mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.
9. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to ear the apple.
10. The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.
11. Moses died before he ever reached canada then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of geritol.
12. The greatest miracle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
13. David was a Hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in biblical times.
14. Solomon, one of Davids sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
15. When Mary head she was the mother of Jesus, she sang the magna carta.
16. When the three wise guys from the east side arrived they round Jesus in the manager.
17. Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.
18. St John the blacksmith dumped water on his head

19. Jesus enunciated the golden rule, which says to do unto others before they do one to you. He also explained a man doth not live by sweat alone.
20. It was a miracle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to get the tombstone off the entrance.
21. The people who followed the lord were called the 12 decibels.
22. The epistles were the wives of the apostles.
23. One of the opossums was St Matthew who was also a taximan.
24. St. Paul cavorted to Christianity, he preached holy acrimony which is another name for marriage.
25. Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotony.

\* \* \* \* \*

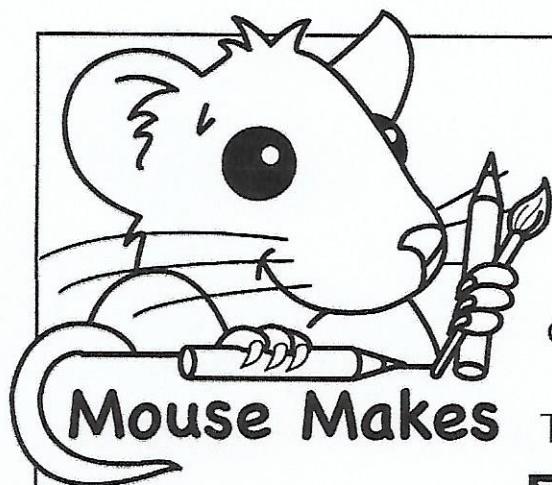
This one is a true story....

A friend of mine, Lorraine, was talking to her eight year old grandson. His grandfather, on the other side of the family had died. The little boy was sad because he loved his grandad, and Lorraine was trying to comfort him.

She told the boy that his grandad was becoming an old man, and he had been very poorly. She then said that he was in a lovely place, and he had gone to be with Jesus.

Earlier this year the boy suddenly asked his grandma if they could go to Jersey for a holiday. She asked him why he wanted to go there. The boy said that they could see grandad because she told that that's where he had gone.

David



# Mouse Makes

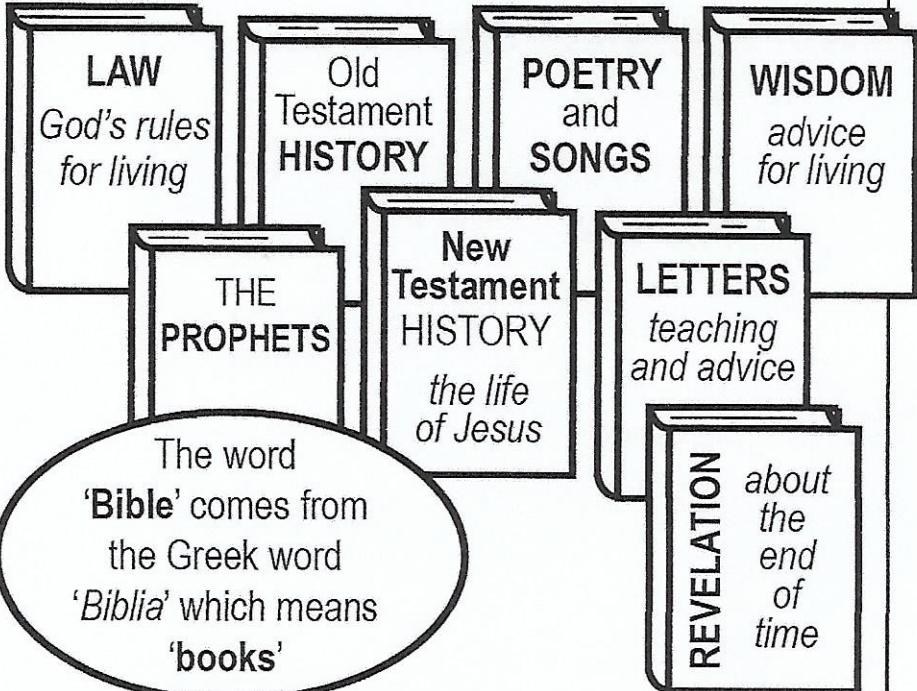
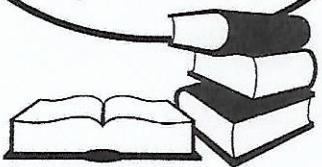
## BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words  
in **BOLD** type on this  
page are also hidden  
in the word search,  
can you find them?

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

The Bible is a collection of books that took over 2,000 years to write! The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

There are  
**66** books in the Bible.  
*How many can  
you name?*



God speaks to us today as we read the Bible.  
The Bible encourages us, corrects us and  
shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



## Mirror

James 1:23



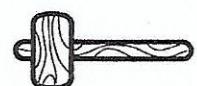
## **Food**



## Honey and Gold *Psalm 19:10*



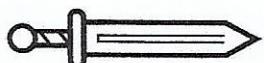
*Psalm 119:105*



**Hammer**  
*Jeremiah 23:29*



*Jeremiah 20:9*



## Sword

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about God and how we can be friends with Him.

# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew 12:1-14, Luke 6:1-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see if he broke any of God's laws, or the rules they had made up to stop the laws being broken.

Jesus' disciples were hungry so they picked some wheat from a field as they walked.



The Pharisees said to Jesus

Why are your disciples harvesting on the Sabbath? That is against the rules!

But King David broke the rules when he ate the bread that was only for the priests\*

\*1 Sam 21:1-6

And priests are allowed to work in the temple on the Sabbath\*

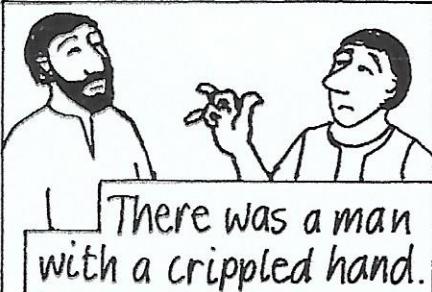
\*Num 28:9

Don't you understand when God says 'Keeping rules doesn't make up for not having kindness'?\*

\*Hos 6:6

If you understood, you would know my disciples did nothing wrong.

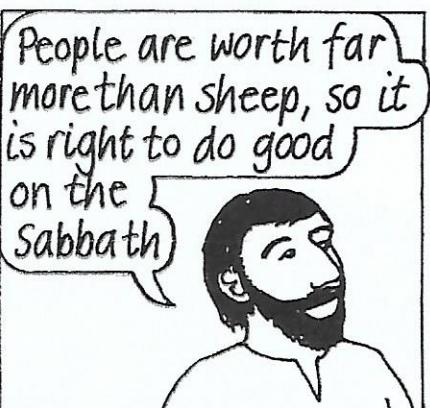
The Pharisees followed Jesus to the meeting place



The Pharisees wanted to accuse Jesus of breaking rules, so they asked him a trick question.

Is it right to heal someone on the Sabbath?

If your sheep fell into a ditch on the Sabbath you would lift it out.



The Pharisees left and made plans.



## Celebrating 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the voyage of the *Mayflower*



If we find it difficult to cross the Atlantic just now, it was even worse 400 years this month. On 6<sup>th</sup> September 1620, 102 determined Puritans climbed on board the *Mayflower* and set sail from Plymouth. They had 30 crew to steer them across 3000 miles of open, perilous ocean. Those Puritans, or 'Pilgrim fathers', could never have dreamed that their journey would become one of the most influential in world history. Their courage and purpose for the voyage would help shape the very history and culture of the USA.

The Pilgrim fathers themselves were in search of religious freedom and a new life. Years before they had rejected the Church of England, due to its Roman Catholic past, and in 1608 they had moved to Holland, where they could worship freely. But life was very hard there, and so the New World beckoned to them.

They had originally intended to use two ships, but the *Speedwell* sprang a leak shortly after sailing, and so they crowded as many as possible into the *Mayflower*. After a long and difficult 10 weeks at sea, they reached America, but could not reach their intended destination, Virginia, because of heavy seas. They finally landed in Provincetown Harbor, Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

That presented the next great challenge: the bitter, harsh winter of Massachusetts. Half of the Pilgrims perished that first winter, of hunger and cold. Without the help of the local Indigenous peoples to teach them food-gathering and other survival skills, all of the colony would probably have perished.

After months of hard work, by the 'Fall' of 1621 the tiny colony had its first harvest. They celebrated this great achievement with their new Indigenous friends. It became Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims had been convinced that God wanted them to go to the New World. They wrote: "We verily believe and trust the Lord is with us, and that He will graciously prosper our endeavours according to the simplicity of our hearts therein."

The *Mayflower* was one of the earliest pilgrim vessels, and so became a cultural icon in the history of the United States. This year, until coronavirus put a stop to things, many celebrations in the USA, England and the Netherlands had been planned.

## **Louis Pasteur – ‘father’ of microbiology**

A tiny invisible thing that brings disease and death .... where have we heard that before?! But Louis Pasteur, who died 125 years ago this month, on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1895, was not interested in a virus from China, but in tiny living organisms that brought disease and death in other ways.

Pasteur made some outstanding breakthroughs. He discovered the principles of vaccination, and then created the first vaccines for anthrax and rabies. His medical discoveries provided support for the germ theory of disease and nullified the theory of spontaneous generation. But Louis Pasteur is best known for his invention of the technique of treating milk and wine to stop bacterial contamination, a process that was named after him: pasteurisation. In doing so, he saved the French beer, wine and silk industries.

All in all, this gifted French biologist, microbiologist, and chemist well deserves his title as the ‘father of microbiology,’ and to be seen as one of the three main founders of bacteriology.

## **Plastic Problem**

There is growing concern in the Government, among campaigners, and among scientists over how coronavirus has sparked an increase in single-use plastics.

Not only are millions of disposable masks and gloves now ‘out there’, but there has been also a huge increase in disposable cutlery, sachets and containers.

One study by UCL estimates that in the UK alone, if every person used a single-use face mask every day for a year, it would create an additional 66,000 tonnes of contaminated waste, and 57,000 tonnes of plastic packaging.

Two environment ministers, Lord Goldsmith and Rebecca Pow, have said: “We are actively thinking across the Government and NHS whether we can safely reuse PPE and we are aware of other countries who have begun looking at the potential to decontaminate and reuse it.”

Scientists warn that it could take up to 500 years for polypropylene face masks to degrade. Meanwhile, according to some estimates, 129billion masks and 65billion plastic gloves are being used each month worldwide.

## All in the month of September

It was:

400 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1620, that 102 English Puritans (now known as the Pilgrims) set sail aboard the Mayflower from Plymouth, for a new life in America. After a perilous journey they landed in what is now Provincetown Harbour, Cape Cod, Massachusetts on 11<sup>th</sup> November. They had intended landing in Virginia, but were unable to reach it because of heavy seas.

125 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1895 that Louis Pasteur died. This French biologist, microbiologist and chemist was one of the main founders of the field of medical microbiology. Best known for originating the pasteurization of foodstuffs to eliminate micro-organisms that cause disease. Pasteur saved the French beer, wine and silk industries and developed vaccines against anthrax and rabies.

65 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1955 that Britain's first independent television channel, ITV, was launched. It ended the BBC's monopoly. Regional franchises were rolled out across the whole country by 1965.

60 years ago, on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1960 that Sylvia Pankhurst, suffragette leader, died.

50 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1970 that the first Glastonbury Festival was held, at Worthy Farm near Pilton, Somerset. About 1,500 people attended (compared to 135,000 today). It became an annual event from 1981 and is now the world's largest greenfield festival. The first festival was billed as the Pilton Pop, Blues & Folk Festival.

40 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1980 that the Solidarity movement was created in Poland, with Lech Walesa as its leader. It was the first independent trade union in the Soviet bloc.

25 years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1995 that the auction site eBay was founded (as AuctionWeb).

15 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2005 that the IRA decommissioned its last remaining weapons in front of independent inspectors.

Parish Pump 2020

### Crossword answers:

**ACROSS:** 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

**DOWN:** 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

Sudoku solution:

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

## God in the Sciences

*This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*

### How can a Christian be a scientist?

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

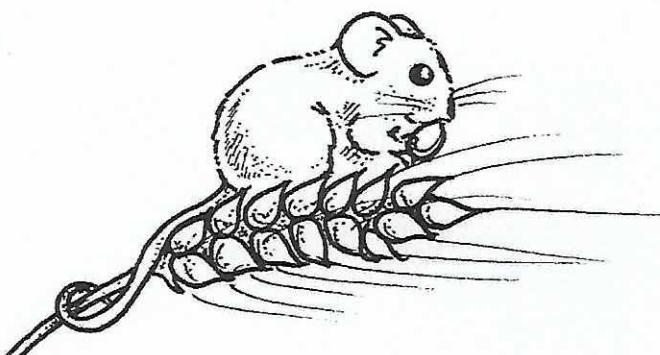
Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don’t affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. The world has been declared by God to be ‘very good’ (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don’t want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds, and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don’t have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let’s encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.

*Parish Pump 2020*



## ANSWERS TO ADDRESSES IN FICTION

1. 23 Railway Cuttings, East Cheam
2. Robert Crawley, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Grantham and his family
3. Walmington-on-Sea. (Dad's Army)
4. Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry
5. 165, Eaton Place, London. (Upstairs, Downstairs)
6. Mary Yellan
7. Ambridge
8. Lower Loxley
9. 100 acre wood
10. Manderley
11. Llareggub (Take care if you spell it backwards! The BBC never spotted it.)
12. Weatherfield
13. The Island of Sodor
14. Lilliput
15. 221b Baker Street, London
16. Edinburgh
17. Amity Island
18. Toyland
19. Salzburg
20. Mole End
21. The House with Three Chimneys
22. A small blue planet in outer space.
23. Wimbledon Common
24. 368, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Nelson Mandela House, Peckham
25. Denmark
26. Oil Drum Lane
27. Gotham City
28. Southfork Ranch
29. St. Mary Mead
30. 32, Windsor Gardens

Bonus Question: The 39 Steps were at North Foreland, Broadstairs

# Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster



## Sunday Service Morning Worship at 10.30am

### Please note:

Until further notice there will only be one service on Sundays due to Coronavirus Restrictions.

Thank you

## Monday

'Start the Week' - 9.30am - 10.00am. Vestry 1.  
A short time of quiet contemplation and prayer.

Zumba Gold 12noon - 1.00pm  
Leader: Bev Slater - 01562 639553  
- (07810 734222)

## Wednesday

Luncheon Club 12.15pm  
Co-ordinator: Mrs. Jill Green -01562 228016

Guides 7.15pm – 9.00pm  
Leader: Stephanie Jaye - 07876 345160

## Tuesday

Trinity Toddlers 9.  
Contact: Mrs Stella  
Rev'd. Nic

Harris/Stanley Hou

- Mrs. Lynne

DUE TO COVID- 19 ALL WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES  
ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Thank you..

Food and Thought Meeting - 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
(Second Tuesday of month)  
• Mr. Nigel Galton – 01562 822103

A time of friendship and food, exploring  
God's word in a relaxed environment.

for details of Communion Services)

## Second Sunday of each Month

6.30pm Café Worship

A relaxed style of Worship with a difference!

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL

Telephone: 01562 824450

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