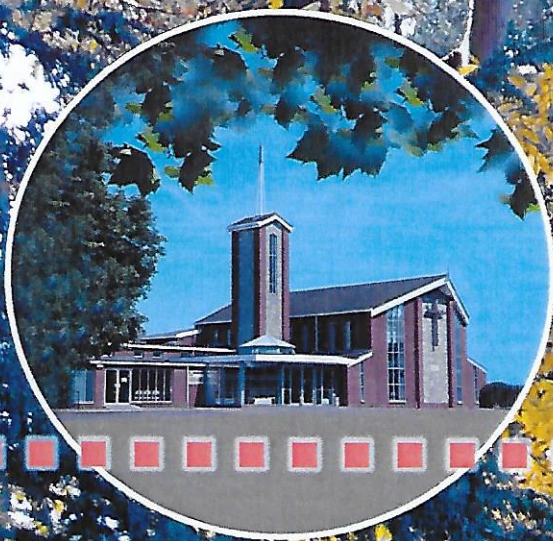


Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster



Trinity Tidings

November 2020



We will remember them...

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

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TRINITY TIDINGS

EDITORIAL TEAM Mr David Skitt 01299 401047
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**The closing date for items for the
DECEMBER/JANUARY ISSUE
of Trinity Tidings is Sunday 29th November 2020**

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:
arleystation@aol.com**

Thanks to John Harris for designing the front and back covers

Dear Friends,

I always think that once we've put the clocks back the winter months are very much upon us. It is also the time of year when the church calendar sees the old liturgical year ending and a new one beginning (starting at Advent, which this year begins on Sunday 29th November).

It is a time of year, seasonally speaking, that I'm personally not too keen on, as I much prefer the longer light days and the warmer months in favour of the cold and the dark. I'm sure I'm not alone in that respect.

Almost a year ago Thomas and Agnes, my good friends from South India, came to stay with us. (You may have met them at church when they were here). For them, a winter break in the cold is like a warm summer break for us.

Whenever we went out in the car I would put the heater on and when I wasn't looking Thomas would turn it off. The central heating in the house was much lower than we would normally have it - (and I was freezing!) - but they loved it. For them it was a welcome relief from the constant heat they have to endure when they are at home in Tamil Nadu.

As for the lack of day light, in South India it gets dark approximately 6.30pm all year round, so it wasn't that much of a contrast for them. So, I suppose it all depends upon your perspective!

In the spring when 'lockdown' was enforced all over the country, at least we had the lighter warmer days to look forward to. However, as the virus gradually threatens to impact more and more on us again we don't have that luxury, and the prospect of being shut in and isolated in the depths of winter is a much less favourable one. But I happened upon a short interview Terry Waite has recently done and share some of its content with you as encouragement in these difficult times.

When speaking about his time in captivity as a hostage in Beirut (and comparing it with life under lockdown restrictions) he says this:

"Try and live for the moment by mentally adjusting to the situation. I used to tell myself there is little or nothing I can do to change this, but I can hold onto the fact that I have life now, not tomorrow, I have it now - and I'm going to live it as fully as possible."

He went on to say:

"I acknowledge that people are deeply worried at the moment, but somehow remember, this virus will be defeated, and things do have a habit of turning out well if we work for them. We just have to develop the capacity to try and accept the moment as it is."

His advice is:

Keep your own dignity - get out of your PJs - form a structure to your day - be grateful for what you have (shelter, home, possessions) - be creative.

I'm confident that if we can change our mindset to one of 'I'm **safe** at home', as opposed to 'I'm **stuck** at home', if we can support one another pastorally and practically as we have been, and if we can continue to put our trust in God, we will come through it okay.

I'll never look forward to winter like I do spring and summer, but I do intend to try to live for the moment, and I hope you can too!

Every blessing,

Nick.

PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Les Fuller, Margot Stanton, Nigel and Jacquie Galton, Lynn Jones, Ruth Palmer and her sister Anne, and many others who are self-isolating and are not able to attend Church. We remember also the many people who find these darker days depressing and lonely.

We pray for NHS staff, who look after the sick in difficult circumstances, and the scientists who are working to find a vaccine for Covid 19.

During the month of December, please remember and pray for the area of Kidderminster known as Franche.

Franche

December

St Barnabas' Church, Franche Community Church and its Food Bank.

Kidderminster Baptist Church

Schools and Nurseries - Franche, St Catherine's, Mayfield, Deerhurst and Barnabees Nurseries

Old Carolians Rugby Club

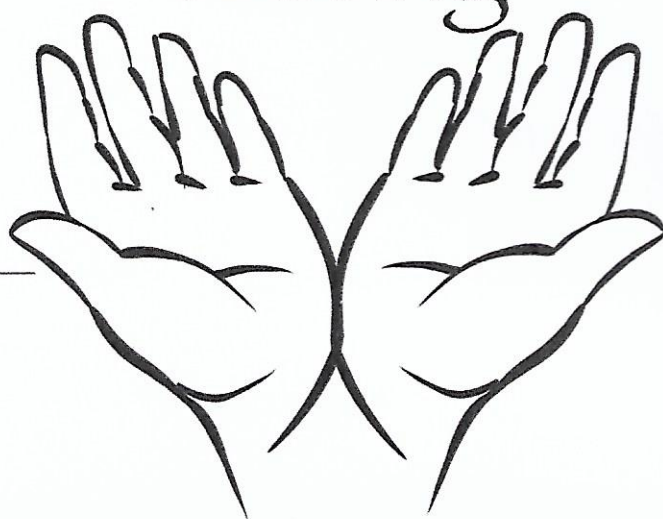
Residential housing

Retail

Rosedene Specialist Residential Home

The Talking Newspaper

Pray without
ceasing



OFFERTORIES FOR THE PAST FOUR WEEKS ARE AS FOLLOWS

Date	Envelopes & Bank Transfer	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
04.10.20	360.00	9.64	657.25	1026.89
11.10.20	240.00	25.00	657.25	922.25
18.10.20	3523.00	26.00	657.25	4206.25
25.10.20	195.00	28.00	657.25	880.25

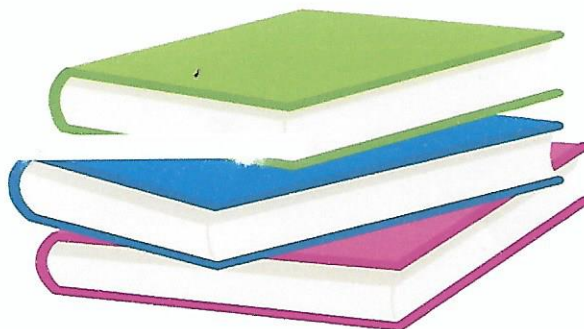
In the current church year to 31 August 2021 the estimated amount of offertories needed to meet expenses is £1170 per week. This is after taking into account all other income such as rental income from the church flat, rooms and car park hire fees, Gift Aid tax refunds, bank interest and sundry income.

TRINITY BOOKSTORE – AN UPDATE

With there being little prospect of the Bookstore re-opening in the foreseeable future, John Morris has decided to retire on 31 October. John has been employed as Book Steward since 1 April 1997 and ran the Bookstore for a long time before that, as a volunteer. He has been a valued and helpful member of staff and a first-rate ambassador for Trinity in dealing with customers and callers alike. His extensive knowledge of contemporary Christian literature was much appreciated by customers and the Bookstore formed a positive aspect of Christian witness at Trinity.

We would like to show our appreciation for John's service by making a monetary retirement gift and would be grateful if anyone wishing to contribute would pass their donation to any of the church stewards or church treasurer.

Thank you, in anticipation.



Trinity is looking for two volunteers for these important tasks.

In the autumn of 2019 we, as a circuit, were challenged to work towards becoming an **Eco-circuit** using the resources provided by A Rocha. To achieve this goal **each church in the circuit was to appoint an ECO-CHAMPION** and the circuit appointed the Revd Dr Peter Levitt to the role of Circuit Eco Support and Adviser. He has begun the process of helping the Eco-champions to achieve the Bronze award in each of the churches. There are five areas of the life of the local church to assess: Worship & Teaching, Buildings, Land, Community & Global Engagement, Lifestyle. This is, of course, only the beginning of a long process aiming to contribute to the reduction of emissions harmful to our environment but we recognise the urgency of acting now in the face of a real climate emergency threatening our Home, planet Earth, and all its inhabitants.

The Stewards are looking to appoint an **ECO CHAMPION** to spearhead this project and take it forward in conjunction with Rev Peter Levitt. There are people interested in being part of a small group, but no one as yet who can lead this project on behalf of Trinity. Please consider this important role. Thank you.

More information on the A Rocha website
<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

GDPR

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (**GDPR**) updates and consolidates the existing legal obligations on organisations, such as the Methodist Church, to bring them into the twenty first century. The Methodist Church cares about the people whose data it holds and recognises the importance of this information to its work. GDPR provides a great opportunity to review exactly what personal information the Church holds, how it uses it and what steps we as a Church need to take to protect each other's privacy e.g. members, ministers, volunteers, employees, individuals who support the Church and third party users.

The stewards feel that this responsibility also needs someone who can coordinate and inform Trinity on a consistent basis, working with the stewards and Church Council where necessary. If you are someone who feels they may be able to help (with a small support group) get Trinity on track with the regulations, then do please give this role some serious thought. There is more information and support from our District Office available.

Please contact Senior Stewards Rachel or Mary for more information about these important aspects of Church life.

From the Editor...

Dear Friends,

We are now entering the gloomy part of the year, now that the clocks have gone back, and we look towards long dark evenings. At least for a few days we have the lovely colours of autumn leaves. In the Arley Arboretum there is a large Canadian Maple tree and at this time of the year its leaves have changed to a gorgeous yellow, and the whole tree looks as if it is on fire. The downside is that in many places fallen leaves have to be swept up and disposed of. Of course Network Rail will say that train delays are due to the wrong type of leaves on the line! On our railway, each steam engine has a sand box on each side above the driving wheels, which can drop sand onto the rail giving adhesion. As the sand boxes are beside the boiler, the sand does not become damp so it is always usable. This year because of Covid 19, we are not able to go out as much, or meet friends as we did, and this more than anything can make us depressed. So we are thankful for books, television, radio (but not the news!!), and technology can keep us in touch with each other.

Having written this, I think I will light my comforting, warming coal fire, and I might make toast for my tea. Anyone want to join me?

David

Having written the above letter, now for my grumbles. Have you noticed the misuse of our English language over last year or two? We all know about the 'greengrocer's apostrophe' when we see 'Apple's £1.00 a kg'. There is also the split infinitive famously and wrongly said in Star Trek 'To boldly go,' You hear it all the time spoken by educated people on radio and television. How many times do we hear a politician use the words 'robust' or 'robustly'. In these days scientists are very fond of use the phrase that we are reaching 'the tipping point'. What is it, and will we know when we have reached it? Will we all go sliding down into - what? Who knows?

Then there is the americanisation of certain words. I heard a lady say, instead of 'symbolism' but 'symbolicalisation'. Finally (I am sure you will be glad) there is the pronunciation of the word 'now' which has become 'neow' and the word 'about' has become 'abeowt'. It seems to be spoken by younger ladies - is this 'Estuary English'?

There we are, I've had my grumble, and I think we just have to put with it but what would Charles Dickens have thought about it?



REMEMBRANCE DAY.

Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day itself will be quite different this year. There will be no large parades and ceremonies, and yet still we will remember. We will be silent, even in our own homes for a minute's reflection on the sacrifice made by so many soldiers, sailors and airmen not only in two World Wars but right up until our present day. Men, and women who fought for freedom, and the millions of civilians who died in conflicts not of their own making.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning We will remember them.*

Rudyard Kipling, the writer and poet, had a son, John, always known as Jack. When the Great War started Kipling eager for all men to enlist, saying that it was their duty to fight for King, country and freedom. This included his own son. Jack was encouraged to enlist, but was turned down more than once because of his very poor eyesight. Eventually through his father's influence he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion, Irish Guards. Jack was not quite 17. He went out to France, to the Western Front and was killed in his first action in the battle of Loos in 1915. His body was not found until 1992. It had been buried with the inscription on the headstone "A SOLDIER OF THE GREAT WAR" "KNOWN UNTO GOD" Rudyard Kipling was overcome with grief, and his wife even up until her death still insisted that he was alive somewhere. Kipling wrote the poem below, which does not mention war, or sacrifice, but is all the more moving and poignant.

MY BOY JACK

"Have you news of my boy Jack?"

Not this tide.

"When do you think he'll come back?"

Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Has anyone else had word of him?"

Not this tide.

For what is sunk will hardly swim,

Not with this wind blowing, and this tide.

"Oh, dear, what comfort can I find?"

None this tide,

Nor any tide,

Except he did not shame his kind –

Not even with that wind blowing, and that tide.

Then hold your head up all the more

This tide,

And every tide;

Because he was the son you bore,

And gave to that wind blowing, and to that tide.



LEST WE FORGET

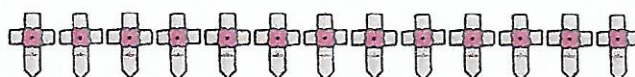


LEST WE FORGET

Some year's later, Kipling wrote these bitter, remorseful words:

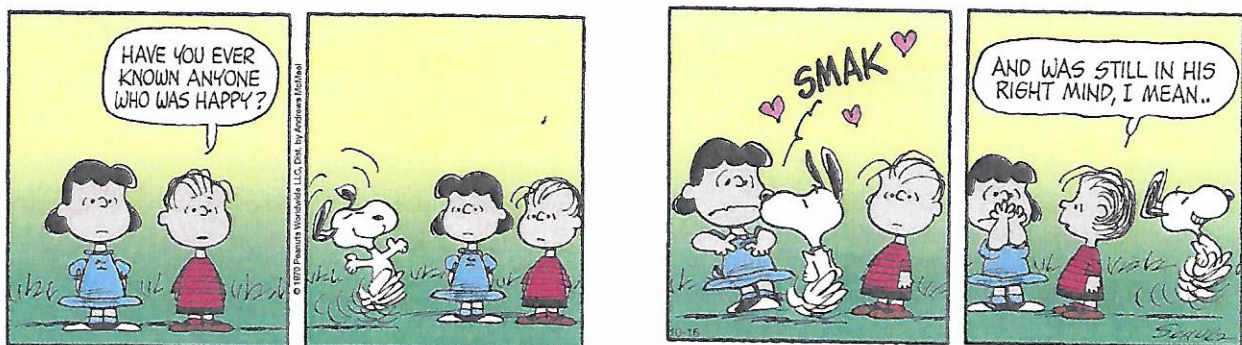
"If any ask us why we died,

Tell them because our fathers lied."

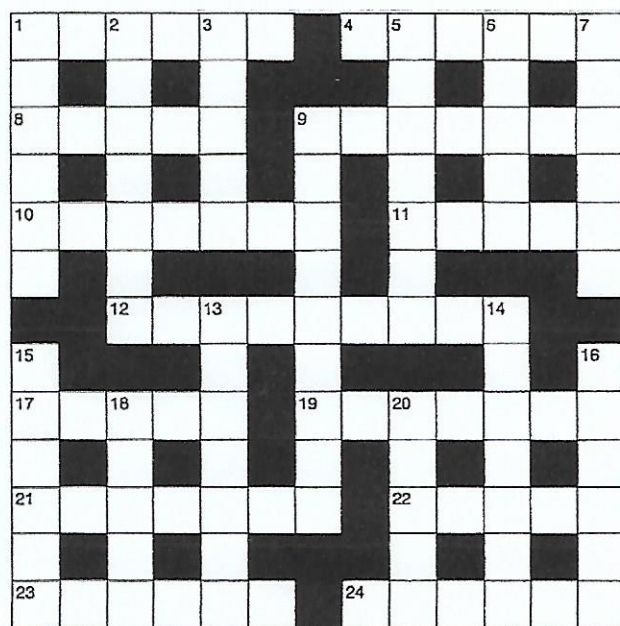


A Quiz about all sorts of things....

- 1 Who said "Doctor Livingstone I presume"?
- 2 What is 3.142...known as?
3. How many counties are there in England?
4. Where was Admiral Lord Nelson when he was shot?
5. In which war did the Charge of the Light Brigade take place?
6. Who wrote the poem about it?
7. In 'The Last of the Summer Wine' which actor appeared in every episode?
8. What was the profession of W. G. Grace, the cricketer?
9. In which year was the F.A. cup stolen?
10. Who is the only player to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final?
11. 'Houston, we have a problem.' Why was that said?
12. Who hid in an oak tree at Boscombe?
13. Who wanted the words 'I'd rather be in Philadelphia' put on his gravestone?
14. What was the title of Agatha Christie's first novel?
15. The daisy means 'day's eye'. Why?
16. What happened to Glenn Miller?
17. Tony Hancock died in which country?
18. Who starred in the film 'The Italian Job'?
19. Who is credited with inventing television?
20. Who were the stars of 'Casablanca'?
21. How old was Vera Lynn when she died?
22. What is your patella?
23. Who coined the phrase 'The Iron Curtain'?
24. Who was Prime Minister when Edward VIII abdicated?
25. Which Prime Minister's father was a music hall artist and circus performer?
26. Where did Derek "Red Robbo" Robinson work?
27. How many Grand Slam Tennis championships are played on grass?
28. Who made a work of art called 'The Bed'?
29. Who wrote the book 'Les Miserables'?
30. Who was born Harry Rodger Webb?



Parish Pump Crossword



Sudoku puzzle (easy)

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

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Across

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)
- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

Another Poem from our anonymous poet!

Impossible Design

"I don't believe the bee can fly!"
I heard a strident sceptic cry,
"Mathematics proved, mechanics showed,
"Those wings can't lift that body load.
"Besides, the shape's all wrong, I fear,
"For take-off, slipstream, thrust or shear.
"In balance, texture, weight and line,
"A bee's the very worst design.
"Give me the project, I'll create a
"More effective pollinator."

Just then, to an excited shout,
A bumble bee came crawling out.
A reverent hush, a sigh of rapture,
A choir of clicks and photo capture!
The other side of toughened glass,
The bee meandered through the grass,
And climbed a sun-kissed peony,
Trailblazing for a colony,
That, sad to say, in terms succinct,
Was biologically extinct.

And now, the insect gently settles,
Within the flower's satin petals.
Antenna hum... acoustic lapse...
Transmits to waiting radio apps.
Crescendo buzz of feverish sound!
The bee begins to circle round
Soft stamens, in a speeding spin.
Spontaneous applause breaks in;
A moment of surprised reaction,
Precedes the frenzied camera action.

With bulging leg sacs, pollen-bloated,
And velvet body, powder-coated,
The spiral stops; and wings so flimsy,
As from a tale of fairy whimsy,
Vibrate in wild acceleration.
Breathless, with rising expectation,
The doubter stares with dropping jaw.
Defying scientific law,
This bumbling impossibility
Flew humbly – into history.



GARDENING NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

Whereas September and October, to some extent, can be viewed as months where 'summer-like' conditions can be experienced, November is distinctly autumnal! With the sun now 'way down south' the mitigating effects of in-coming insolation is much weaker than even a few weeks ago, chillier mornings and early evenings very evident. Atlantic low-pressure systems are stronger due to the enhanced temperature contrasts between the still warm sub-tropical oceans and the rapidly cooling Polar Regions to our north.

Gales are to be expected across western and north-western areas, as Atlantic depression tends to follow a southwest to northeast track just to the northwest between Scotland and southeast Iceland, the heaviest rain usually experienced over the hills and mountains of western Britain. Pressure at this time of year has a tendency to be higher over Continental Europe, so if a ridge should develop through England and Wales expect light and variable winds, clear skies and overnight radiational cooling. This is a recipe for the formation of mist and fog, especially inland, often accompanied with frost. Severe cold from the east is unusual, although studying the pressure patterns close to the UK dating back to the mid 18th century there is a distinct tendency for an 'Arctic outbreak' from the north during the last 7 to 10 days of November, we shall see whether this bears fruit this year?

Tropical air can still reach the UK on a strong south-westerly flow, although the cooler seas around our shores greatly modify this still rather mild air mass. On the whole, November weather resembles that of October, although with a greater tendency for stronger storms and marked temperature fluctuations as the associated air masses cross the UK. With a lot of jobs requiring attention within the garden, it will be necessary to make the most of the available daylight hours, workable weather and ground conditions before the winter closes in and most of us 'retreat indoors'!

With so many tasks to be done this month it's difficult to know where to begin or give priority, so here are a few basic tips, in no particular order or urgency.

With winter hanging baskets planted up and put into position whilst the weather is still good there is time to plant up winter containers for the patio or backyard; these can provide valuable colour, form and interest during the dull days of winter. When deciding on design take note of the intended final position and choose a pot or container which suits that area and the choice of plants to be planted within it. If you have a tall, large container then think about planting something taller within it, and likewise, if you're thinking of mainly low growing subjects then choose a shallow pot; keeping things in proportion and scale looks better. When planting your container, give yourself plenty of space and elbow room in which to work, this makes the job much easier. Start by placing some broken pieces of crock or polystyrene over the drainage holes in the base of the container to aid free drainage, as this is essential for the health of a winter display. Use John Innes compost (No. 2 is best) not a peat based multi-purpose, and do remember that if you intend to plant *Skimmias* or *Ericas* within it you will need to use an ericaceous (lime-free) compost. Fill the container to about 1" (2.5cm) below the rim to allow subsequent watering. Plant larger subject first, usually in the centre, then the small or trailing subjects around it. If you wish, you can position the plants (still in their pots) to get the design correct within the container before planting into their final positions. Fill around the plants with compost and firm in, but don't pack too hard. Finally, place into position and place on feet or bricks to lift off the surface then water until water flows through the drainage hole.

Don't be tempted to cut back or prune penstemon; these should be left until the spring. A hard frost will surely blacken the foliage of Dahlias. This will be a signal to lift and store the tubers before any further hard frosts damage the plant. Lift gently and carefully remove soil; dust with yellow sulphur powder and bury tubers in boxes of dry sand, soil or compost. Place in a cool, frost-free place to over-winter, checking regularly for signs of rot and damage. If found, cut out damaged tissue and dust with sulphur powder.

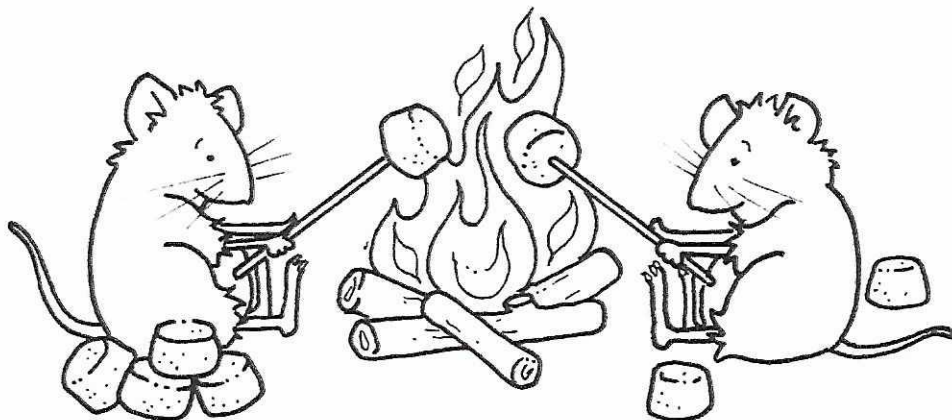
With autumn upon us there's obviously going to be a good deal of leaf litter about; don't let it go to waste. Either sweep them up and place them on the compost heap or, better still, turn it into leaf mould. Leaf mould is a fantastic soil improver and general compost for seed sowing and is easily made. Simply fill a bin bag with collected, pre-shredded, leaves. Oak, beech and hornbeam are best; sycamore, horse chestnut and sweet chestnut are a bit tough to decompose but still useful. Good decomposition is achieved if the leaves are collected when wet after rain; poke a few holes thorough the sides of the bin bag to allow air circulation and speed decay. Evergreen leaves are better shredded and added to the compost heap; adding lawn clippings serves to speed up decomposition and makes the mix a bit richer in nutrients.

Deciduous hedges can be planned and planted through this month and are planted from bare root plants during autumn and winter when dormant; don't attempt planting when the soil is wet, heavy or frozen.

One subject that concerns many people at this time of year is the appearance of fungi and toadstools. Many fungi that appear are usually of no concern and are known as saprophytic, resulting from the decay of material buried within the soil. The dreaded Honey Fungus is something completely different and generally appears at the very base of infected stems or trunks of trees.

A lot to do this month so enjoy your garden; it's the only one you've got!

Bob



Blessing for God

Isn't it lovely, president trump of the U.S.A has received a blessing from God, Covid-19 no less. Now God was not averse to giving a few blessings but to cause a disease leading to a pandemic? I don't think so, plagues were his speciality, see how Moses and the Children of Israel witnessed His wrath on the Egyptians; blood, frogs, gnats, flies, locusts, boils, hail and a curse on livestock, but nothing like Covid-19, although the great flood in which Noah was saved but the rest of the world perished comes close. In fact, what God was to bestow on Moses should have been the end of all pain and suffering and form a brand-new world.

The ten commandments were the most important rules that God gave to Moses and the Israelites. These rules covered all aspects of life, how to eat, how to keep fit, how to stay healthy and also, the importance of rest. People were not allowed to eat everything; some birds and animals were unsuitable. This was because they often had diseases in them which could have been passed on to humans. The Israelites had to wash things thoroughly, keep themselves clean and have early forms of sanitation. There were to be no sacrifices. For people who loved God, this was the way to live in every age and every culture.

Sometimes today illness can be triggered by the way we live, however The Bible does not say it is a punishment from God. There are things so bad in the world that can harm anyone. This is Covid-19. God only promises that in Heaven there will be no more illness and death. We need to read the book of Leviticus to show every aspect of life and how to live it. Unlike the world around you and Covid-19 bringing you down, God brings the best out of you and gives you life; that's the blessing from God, enjoy it.

Mike

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley)

Mike's Smile Lines – Thoughts for the day

When shopping, why not put your eggs at the bottom of your bag. Ok, they might break but that's all. Put them on top and they break they'll spill over and ruin £30 worth of groceries.

**

No matter where you go and how long you stay on holiday you always get the shower setting perfect on the last evening. You also find the T.V. station you were searching for.

**

Are these Career Advisors in schools a waste of time? I remember one who tried to fix me up with a job in a factory making jams and jellies – said I'd be set for life.

**

I once tried that positive thinking stuff. I knew it wouldn't work and sure enough it didn't.

**

Do you know man is the only animal in the world who goes to bed when he isn't sleepy and gets up when he is.

**

Got a watch that works at 50m below sea level. Let's face it, none of us swims at 50m below sea level and if I should drop my watch in 50m of water, there it stays.

**

I'm a Methodist and always will be but I sometimes think that if I'd joined the Salvation Army I would be able to play a trumpet now.

**

The rule of six would have been awkward during the time of the crucifixion. There would have to have been three sittings at the last supper. 4 disciples + Jesus x 3.

**

If you've got a normal heart beat of 60 to the minute, you could time your egg boiling for 3 minutes, time rounds of a boxing match and do the 2 minutes silence for Remembrance Sunday. P.S. Don't time the preacher's sermon, you could give yourself a heart attack!

ON THE ROAD WITH JOHN WESLEY

People are always moaning how difficult it is to drive down a narrow passage to reach the Stourport Wesley Church. OK, you lost a wing mirror but that isn't the point. It was wide enough for John Wesley to ride down on his horse or in a carriage, that's what it's all about. In fact, John Wesley did ride down Parkes Passage to preach on 2 occasions. He was booked for a 3rd visit but unfortunately died before he made it.

The roads in Britain in the 1700's were terrible, in fact, there were no roads as we know them today. There were only cart tracks linking villages with perhaps wider tracks linking big cities with London. Most of Britain was open and wild country so how did John Wesley manage to get around; simple, he walked. He knew the United Kingdom better than any man alive at the time. He found a 25mile walk was an easy and safe journey any day, even in hot weather.

He also made another discovery; he could read while he walked. Wesley was no mean pedestrian. A large part of his travelling on the continent in 1733 was done on foot. He once walked 1000 miles in a year just to preach at churches around Oxford. Wesley never lost his zeal for walking.

However, he needed to travel further afield so he took to travelling on horseback, one day alone he covered 90 miles. He could even read his books while trotting along on horseback and he became familiar with the discomforts of the road. Horses often fell lame or were injured by incompetent blacksmiths. He had many serious accidents falling off or being thrown on many occasions. He had some remarkable escapes. On one occasion his horse rolled on top of him. He took many cuts and bruises and there was one incident where he was rumoured to have been killed falling from a horse. He actually rode over 100,000 miles on horseback but could scarcely remember the name of any of the horses he rode.

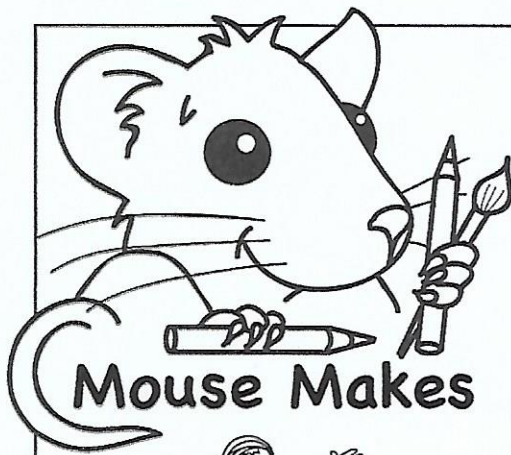
After one bad fall in 1772, Wesley said "I met several of my friends who have begun a subscription to prevent me riding on horseback, which I cannot do quite so well since a hurt I got some months ago. If they continue it so be it, if not I shall have the strength according to my need". They raised the money and bought him a carriage so Wesley's life became easier. He could travel much faster and was able to preach 3 or 4 times a day. Even so, he still had the occasional accident. A wheel would come off and once the carriage tipped over.

Sometimes between London and big cities Wesley would travel by stagecoach. On these trips he would be joined by strangers with whom he was able to converse and perhaps divert them towards Methodism. The thousands of miles he journeyed in his lifetime was the reason his religion was spread nationwide.

It was surprising he had a long and eventful life, what with accidents, wild animals, knaves, vagabonds and highwaymen. Near to death he was quoted as saying "I have been wandering up and down for nearly 60 years, endeavouring in my poor way to do a little good for my fellow creatures". He certainly did.

Mike

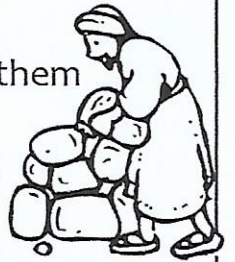
(Stourport Wesley)



REMEMBERING

How do you remember things?

In bible times God's people would remember what God had done for them by building monuments made of stones and by holding festivals and celebrations to give thanks to God.



READ Joshua 4:1-9 and Exodus 12:1-14

Today we too build monuments to remember and hold services of thanksgiving like **Harvest** and **Remembrance Sunday**.



*Is there anything
you would like
to thank
God for?*



REMEMBRANCE • SACRIFICE • VICTORY • TRIUMPH • MONUMENT
ROCK • PILE • OBSERVE • TRIBUTE • COMMEMORATE • RECALL • OFFERING
HONOUR • CELEBRATE • PRAISE • REJOICE • THANKSGIVING • DAYS
FESTIVAL • EASTER • PENTECOST • HARVEST • CHRISTMAS

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 8:40-56, Mt 9:18-26, Mk 5:21-43

Jairus, a town leader, had a 12 year old daughter who was ill and about to die. He came to Jesus and knelt at his feet...

Please come! If you touch her she will be healed.



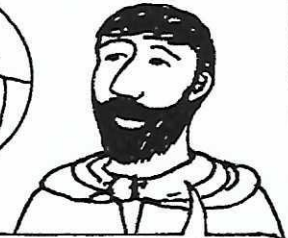
Jesus went with him.

In the crowd was a woman who had been ill for 12 years.



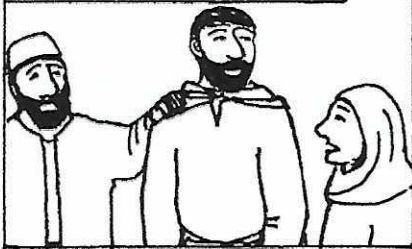
If I touch his cloak I will be healed

Jesus felt power go out of him



Who touched me?

Jesus waited...

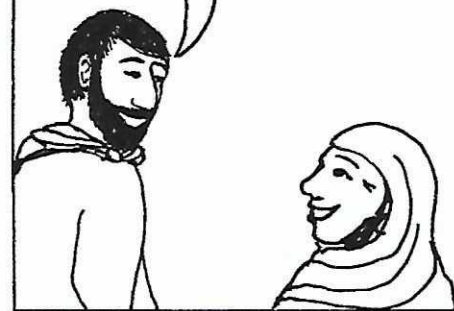


and the woman knew she had to tell him.

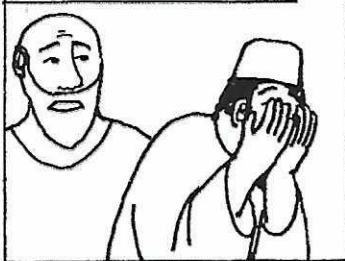
She knelt at Jesus' feet and told him everything



Go, daughter. Your faith has healed you.



Then Jairus was told his daughter had just died.

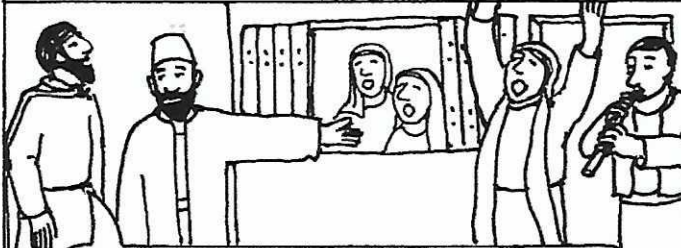


But Jesus said



Don't be afraid, just believe and she will be healed.

When they got to Jairus' house, it was filled with people mourning.



She is not dead, but asleep.

They laughed at Jesus. He sent them out of the house.

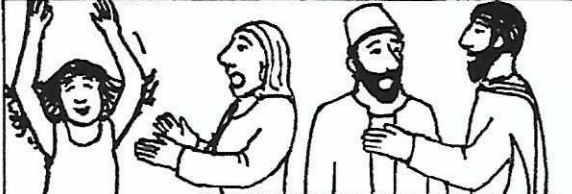


Little girl, get up!



At once she stood up!

Her parents were amazed.



Give her something to eat, and don't tell anyone what has happened.

All in the month of November

It was:

200 years ago, on 28th Nov 1820, that Friedrich Engels, German socialist philosopher and social scientist who collaborated with Karl Marx to found modern communism and co-write the Communist Manifesto.

100 years ago, on 11th Nov 1920, that following World War 1, Britain and France held ceremonies to dedicate a national monument known as the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. The British monument is at Westminster Abbey in London. Also 100 years ago, on 21st Nov 1920 that Bloody Sunday took place during the Irish War of Independence. 31 people were killed in a day of violence that began when the IRA shot dead 14 British soldiers in Dublin. The British then opened fire on a Gaelic football crowd, killing 14 people. Three Irish prisoners held in Dublin Castle were also killed.

80 years ago, on 5th Nov 1940 that Franklin D Roosevelt became the only US President to win a third term in office.

Also 80 years ago, on 14th Nov 1940 that German Luftwaffe bombers virtually destroyed the city of Coventry, including its medieval cathedral.

60 years ago, on 2nd Nov 1960 that a British jury cleared Penguin Books of obscenity for publishing D H Lawrence's novel Lady Chatterley's Lover. This event is often considered the beginning of the permissive society in Britain.

40 years ago, on 4th Nov 1980 that Ronald Reagan was elected as the 40th President of the USA.

30 years ago, on 22nd Nov 1990 that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced her resignation. She was succeeded by John Major on 28th Nov.

25 years ago, on 20th Nov 1995 that Princess Diana admitted that she had committed adultery, and spoke openly about her separation from the Prince of Wales in a frank interview for the BBC.

15 years ago, on 30th Nov 2005 that John Sentamu became Archbishop of York. He was the first black archbishop in the Church of England.

Parish Pump 2020

QUOTES

I have learned now that while those who speak about one's miseries usually hurt, those who keep silence hurt more. – C S Lewis

**

I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my guide. – Martin Luther

Parish Pump 2020

Poppy Appeal 2020

Look out for the Poppy Appeal again this year, but not so much via street collections. Instead, the Royal British Legion will focus on contactless donations, as a safer way forward during the pandemic.

One such method will be 'point of sale donations'. This means that when you shop at your supermarket and reach the till or online, you may be invited to round up your total to the nearest pound to help the Poppy Appeal.

A spokesman for the Royal British Legion said: "The Poppy Appeal 2020 is very much still going ahead", but that "the safety and wellbeing of our volunteers, staff and members is paramount.

This means that collectors who fall into the vulnerable category have been advised "not to take part in activity on behalf of the Poppy Appeal that would expose them to any additional risks while coronavirus is still present."

And yet the need is still huge: "Members of the Armed Forces Community are suffering significant hardship as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak and we at the Royal British Legion will do everything we possibly can to support them."

SMILE LINES

When the vicar moved his family into the large Victorian vicarage, a member of the congregation asked the young son how he liked his new home. "It's great," the little boy replied. "At last I have my own room, Mike has his own room, Jemma has her own room, and Bobby has his own room. But poor Mum is still in with Dad."

**

My three-year-old niece, Kelly, went with a neighbour's little girl to church for her First Communion practice. The minister had the children cup their hands, and then went solemnly down the line, giving each child a piece of bread, and intoning: "God be with you".

This made quite an impression on Kelly. She came home and told her mother to cup her hands and bend down. Kelly took a piece of bread from her sandwich, placed it in her mother's hands, and whispered, in her most angelic voice, "God will get you."

**

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then, your body and your fat are really good friends.

This is the month we remember soldiers and war. So, here is a prayer written by an anonymous confederate soldier in the American Civil War. What he says applies to all of us fighting our own private battles in life.

The Soldier's Prayer

*I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for –
But everything that I had hoped for,
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed.
Soldier in American Civil War*

Parish Pump 2020

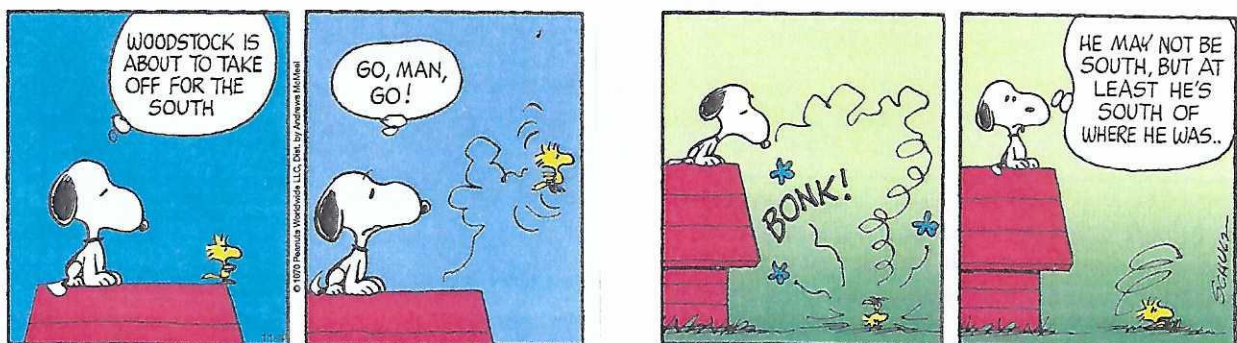
Where do you store your various food items?

Where do you put your parsnips and eggs, and what about the potatoes and onions? The correct answers, according to new government guidelines, are that the first two below in your fridge and the second two belong in your cupboard.

More guidance on storing food safely can now be found on Wrap, the Government's food waste watchdog. The aim is to stop households throwing so much food away.

And so Wrap.org.uk offers advice on storing everything from aubergines to onions, bananas to cheese, fizzy drinks to wine. It could be a good refresher course for many of us, and a lifeline for younger people trying to get the most out of their weekly shop.

Parish Pump 2020



When life goes wrong for us

Where is God when we are hurting? When we are sick or a loved one is sick, why doesn't God always answer our prayer for healing? If He has not answered us, how do we know that He is even there at all?

The words of Alister McGrath* are helpful:

"Experience cannot be allowed to have the final word... the theology of the Cross draws our attention to the sheer unreliability of experience as a guide to the presence and activity of God. God is active and present in His world, quite independently of whether we experience Him as being so. Experience declared that God was absent from Calvary, only to have its verdict humiliatingly overturned on the third day. So – where does that leave us? As with the Cross, it may be that our personal darkest hour may be also God's finest moment for us. It may be there that He does His greatest work in and for us, albeit unseen by us at the time. Thus, instead of letting circumstances consume us, we are to be consumed with God. To that end, we should pray without ceasing, trust in His sovereignty, and find comfort in His love and hope."

* *Mystery of the Cross* (Zondervan, 1990)

Parish Pump 2020

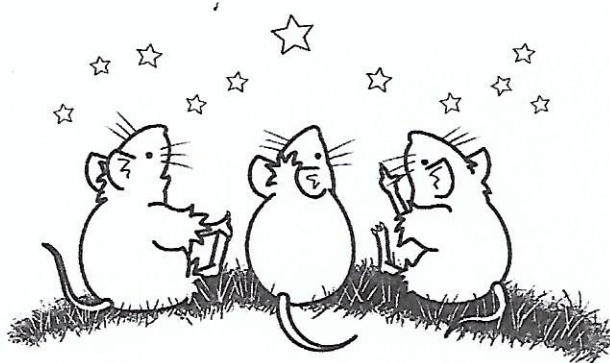
Lord, prop us up!

There is a story of an old farmer who always prayed the same prayer at his church meeting. 'Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side'. After hearing this many times, his minister asked him one day quite what he meant.

The farmer replied: "Well, it's like this... I've got an old barn out in one of my fields. It's been there a long time, and gone through a lot of storms. One day a few years ago I noticed that it was leaning to one side a bit. So, I went and got some poles and propped it up on its leaning side, so it wouldn't fall. Then I got to thinking about how much I was like that old barn. I've been around a long time, and seen plenty of storms in life. I was still standing, but I was also leaning a bit. So, I decided to ask the Lord to prop me up, too, on my leaning side.

Our 'leaning side' is where we are weakest in ourselves. Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, bitterness, bleakness in life. Then we too need to pray for God to prop us up, especially on that leaning side. He wants us to stand tall and free, in Him.

Parish Pump 2020



Canon Paul Hardingham considers how we cope with an uncertain future.

We Will Remember – 80 years on

This year we've been remembering the Battle of Britain, described by Winston Churchill in August 1940 as *'one of the decisive battles of the war... never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.'* It was a dramatic turning point in the history of the Second World War. The occasions for Remembrance this month will provide us times of gratitude for what was achieved in the darkest moments of war.

However, this year we are very aware of our own struggles with the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. We face an unseen enemy, but the effects on our lives and society are almost as devastating as world war.

Remembering is not just about focusing on past events. It is also about making present past events, as we give thanks for all that took place. The Battle of Britain was fought by the Few and won in the skies over the Channel. In our battle with the virus, we can call to mind the victory of Jesus: *'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David.'* (2 Timothy 2:8). Jesus secured the victory of death by His cross and resurrection, so that we don't need to fear death, but trust in His loving purposes for our lives.

Currently we can't see clearly what the future holds for us; it may be very different from what we might expect. However, we can pray for God's will to be done and that we will play our part, just as each of those airmen did so many years ago.

'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'

Parish Pump 2020

Why should you bother to pray?

The great preacher **C.H. Spurgeon** once said this of prayer:

'God says to His own son: "Ask of Me and I will give you the nation for your inheritance." [Psalm 2:7-8] If the royal and divine Son cannot be exempt from the rule of asking, that He may have; you and I cannot expect that rule to be relaxed in our favour. God will bless Elijah and send rain – but Elijah must pray for it.'

And God promises us that if we really seek Him, He will make sure that we find Him.

Parish Pump 2020

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ, CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

1. Henry Stanley
2. Pi
3. 48
4. On the deck of HMS Victory
5. The Crimean War
6. Alfred, Lord Tennyson
7. Peter Sallis
8. Doctor
9. 1895 (From a shop window in Birmingham)
10. Geoff Hurst in 1966
11. A fire broke out on Apollo 13
12. Charles Stuart, later to become Charles II
13. W. C. Fields
14. The Mysterious Affair at Styles
15. The flower closes up at night, and also on a dull day.
16. His small aircraft disappeared over the English Channel on 15th December 1944
17. Australia
18. Michael Caine
19. John Logie Baird
20. Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergmann
21. 103
22. Kneecap
23. Sir Winston Churchill
24. Stanley Baldwin
25. John Major
26. British Leyland
27. One. Wimbledon
28. Tracey Emin
29. Victor Hugo
30. Cliff Richard

Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword Answers:

ACROSS: 1, Thanks. 4, Banner. 8, Esher. 9, Azariah. 10, Compare. 11, Ishma. 12, Doorposts. 17, Oaths. 19, Galatia. 21, Papyrus. 22, Frail. 23, Listen. 24, Hyssop.

DOWN: 1, Trench. 2, Ashamed. 3, Karma. 5, Ananias. 6, Neigh. 7, Reheat. 9, Areopagus. 13, Observe. 14, Satraps. 15, Compel. 16, Gallop. 18, Tapes. 20, Lofty.



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 9.30am

Contact: **Mrs Stella**
Rev'd. Nick

Harris/Stanley House

- **Mrs. Lynne** - 01562 745714

**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.

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