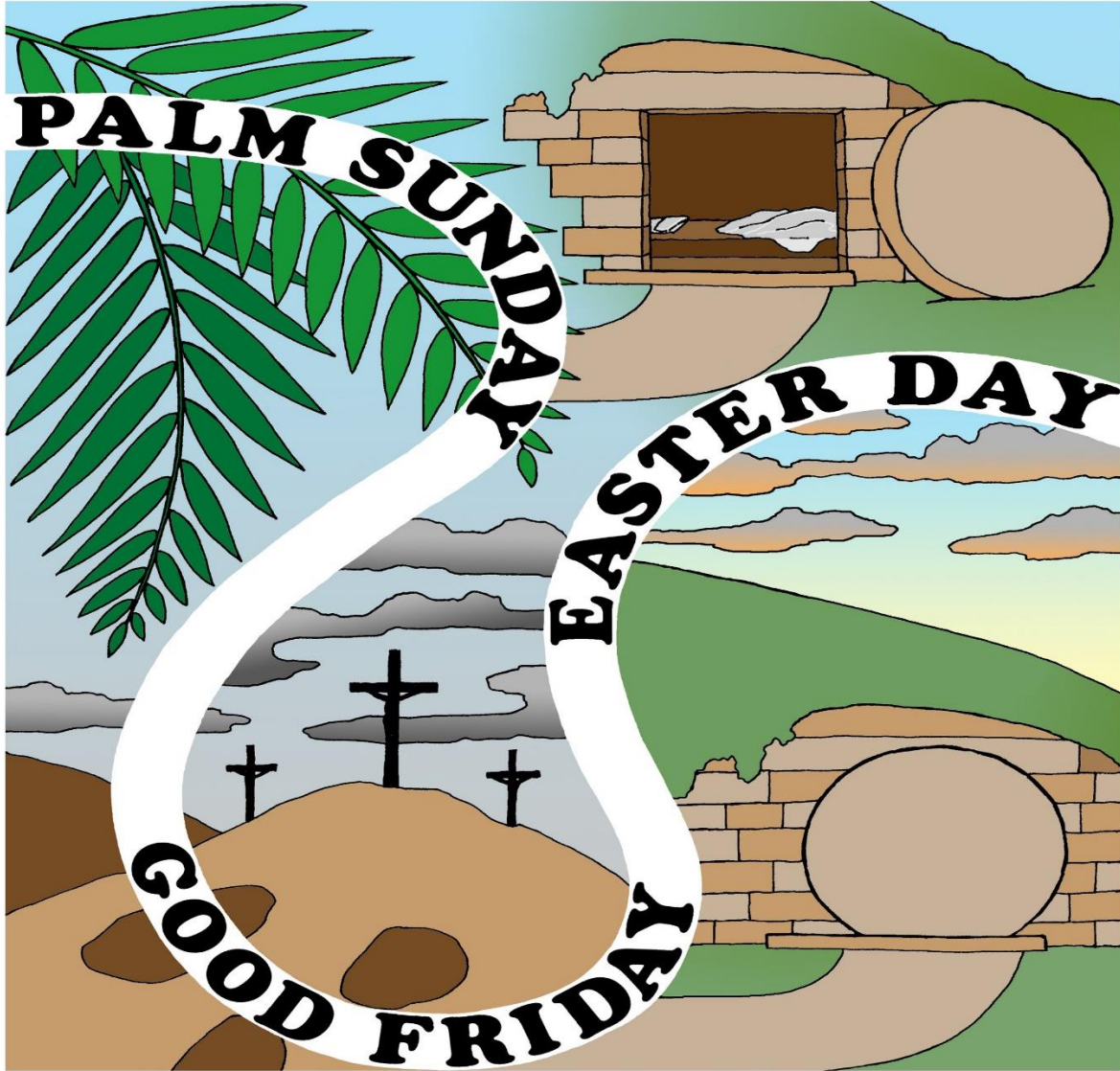


# THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



March 2024 No. 726

## From the Minister ..

One of my favourite depictions in comedy of a vicar is the vicar played by William Thomas in the Gavin and Stacey series. There is an amazing moment in series one in which the couple are having their banns read in preparation for their upcoming marriage and Gavin who is not a regular church goer is forced to go along with the family to be a part of this occasion. The vicar asks members of his congregation what their favourite sandwich is attempting to make the point that we all like different things and we all have a different relationship with God but it's all the same ultimately because the key components do not change. He gets very cross with Gavin though for choosing the same sandwich as someone else in his congregation and the rant that ensues is rather hilarious!



The point he is trying to make however is very valid, we all like to worship in different ways, some of us love reflective, choral evensong type services whilst others prefer loud guitars and drums! I was delighted by the recent turn out at our café style service and the warm atmosphere within the sanctuary on that occasion. Now, of course, I realise that this kind of service is not for everyone! I also realise that the traditional communion service the week prior will not have been everybody's cup of tea, but we are really trying to offer a broad range of styles of worship accessible to as many different people as possible.

We are of course now in Lent and our worship over the next few weeks will be reflective of this moment in the Christian calendar. We think about the temptations of Jesus in the wilderness and perhaps, you have given something up to walk in the footprints of Christ over the weeks ahead.

It is a good opportunity for self-reflection and taking stock of our walk with Christ as he heads for the cross and I hope that our services during Lent will provide you with an opportunity to do this.

Easter this year will be slightly altered from our usual pattern of worship. We will meet for a service on Maundy Thursday at 7.30pm at College Street but there will not be a separate service on Good Friday. Instead, the elders and I, would like to encourage you to come along to the PACT service in the square after which refreshments and fellowship will be on offer in St Peter's church, an opportunity we've always missed out on in the past as we've scarpered off for our own act of worship. We felt it was important as to meet as brothers and sisters in Christ at this PACT initiative and we hope you'll be able to join in. On Easter Sunday there will be a communion service and possibly an all age Easter egg hunt at 10.30am!

There is much ahead of us in the months ahead and I hope in next month's edition to be able to offer more details of our thanksgiving, final service at St Paul's to which I hope many of you will be able to attend and celebrate our witness in that location over many years.

I wish you a reflective Lent period and a very happy Easter when that time comes.

Every blessing,

Your brother in Christ,

Josh.

# Secretary's Snippets!

Hello everyone,

Our newish Pastoral Team meet regularly and discuss any issues with our lovely church family and how we can be most effective with help and support. During our last meeting we looked at the Pastoral Lists and, although saddened to have to take off 2 names due to deaths, we were delighted to be adding names of new regular attenders to our church. At our February elders meeting we had an interesting discussion about how different people view the lists, having an elder overseeing them and the concept of being a member of our church. So I thought it was time for a bit of explaining!

Everyone who attends our church in any way- services, activities, home groups, outreach groups, forest church etc etc - are considered as our church family.

Within the church family are those who are members or are adherents.

- Members are people who have chosen to become a church member by professing their faith in front of the congregation. This maybe as a transfer from another church where they were already a member, or, having had discussions with Josh, their name is taken to the elders and, if approved, to church meeting, and if accepted they will then be brought into membership at a communion service. Once a member they are entitled to vote on any matters discussed at church meeting and to take part in choosing elders.
- Adherents are people who choose, for whatever reason, not to become a member BUT – and here's the big thing – are still part of our church family!

So on the Pastoral lists everyone is assigned an elder – members are labelled in black and adherents in red. BUT everyone is part of the church family!!!!

I don't know if that has helped at all to explain our set up but suffice to say that the revised lists will be displayed on the notice board next to the office. If I have left anyone off, spelled names wrong or anything else please come and tell me.

On Easter Sunday we are hoping to welcome some people into membership whose names have already been approved. If after reading this you think you would like to consider membership then please talk to Josh.

God bless you all, my amazing CHURCH FAMILY!

Carol

## Message from our Church and Community Worker...



### Little Fishes



The team at little fishes have just so much fun, the ladies in the kitchen provide super snacks for the children and Carol with her amazing story time make all the mums and kids laugh. Just a wonderful time to walk alongside the parents and with us now using our beautiful sanctuary no one wants to get off the floor with its under floor heating. A truly fantastic safe place.



(story time)

## Forest Church



We have been so lucky with the weather this year so far, not one session has been inside. Are children just love climbing trees, looking for clue in the woods for their Bible story and being very loud with their prayers. It's so lovely coming across walkers and telling them what we're up to. And with the evening starting to stay lighter for longer we're able to stay out for longer.

## The Sanctuary

Just fabulous to have so many families for all age worship last month, with our Church now being so flexible the opportunity are endless.



## The Rededication Service

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024



The singing group performed an Introit: - *Locus Iste* by Anton Brukner and an anthem:- *God So Loved the World* by John Stainer

Wendy Cassar spoke of A Time for Thankfulness



Rev'd Dr Michael Hopkins preached that the Sanctuary needs to be 'A place for everyone and a place for God'.



Prayers for the World were led by Kay Pennicotte-Henrie



Rev'd Josh Thomas gave us the Blessing.



## **The Left Handshake – Scouts**

During the All-Age talk on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, I asked if anyone belonged to the Scouts. A few raised their hands or nodded. I then asked how anyone else would know they belonged to the Scouts. This question was asked, as I was leading the congregation to the ultimate question, ***‘how can people tell that we are followers of Christ?’*** If a uniform, badge or other point of talks mark out people who belong to different clubs, what would mark out followers of Christ? Peter Crane mentioned the left handshake would reveal who belong to the Scouts.

Below is a short description of how the left handshake became part of the Scouts, as mentioned in the book, ***‘The Left Handshake by Hilary St George Saunders’***. Peter Crane has a copy of this book.

### ***Forward by the Chief Scout of the British Commonwealth and Empire.***

‘When Colonel Baden-Powell entered the capital city of the Ashanti people in 1896 he was met by one of the Chiefs who came to him holding out his left hand. B.-P. held out his right in return but the Chief said: “No, in my country the bravest of the brave shake with the left-hand.” So began the “left handshake” of the world-wide brotherhood of Scouts.’

‘And here is the Scout Promise...’

“On my honour I promise that I will do my best:

- 1) To do my duty to God, and the King
- 2) To help other people at all times
- 3) To obey the Scout Law.”

Let’s hear what Jesus said is the way that people can recognise us as belonging to Him.

***“Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other.” (John 13:34-35 The Message Version)***

And just like the Scout Promise and Scout Left Handshake mark out those who belong to the Scouts,

**LOVE MARKS US OUT AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS**

**Esmé Kelly and Peter Crane**

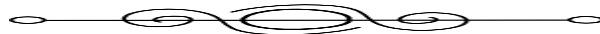
**World Day of Prayer**  
**Prayer for Peace in the Middle East**

"Prayer for Peace in the Middle East" will be held on World Day of Prayer on **Friday 1st March at 1.30pm at Petersfield Methodist Church.**

This service has been prepared locally. We shall be hearing about people's lives in the Middle East and praying for the current situation there. There will be a collection for **Embrace the Middle East** and **Christian Aid**.

Tea and coffee will be served after the service. We look forward to seeing you.

**Janet and Catherine.**



**My Journey So Far – Andrew White**

If anyone is looking for an inspiring and uplifting book to read, we can highly recommend 'My Journey So Far', which is a new addition to the church library. This is the personal and unique story of Canon Andrew White, the 'Vicar of Baghdad'. The book was kindly given to the church by the family of our dear friends, Robin and June Ive.

**David and Fiona Darling**



**Quick Quotes**

Affliction by itself does not sanctify; it exhausts and embitters; it depresses and entices. It is the presence of God and the use made of it by Him, as He relates it to our lives as a whole... that makes adversity salutary. - *Donald MacLeod*

The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything. - *Anon*

If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns. - *Anon*

# Community Matters

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR NEAREST OFFICE  
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT:

## Frontline Petersfield Debt Advice

c/o Life Church Centre  
16D Chapel Street,  
Petersfield,  
GU32 3DZ

Telephone:  
**07919 998442** (24hrs)

Email:  
petersfield@frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk

Website:  
www.frontlinepetersfield.org.uk

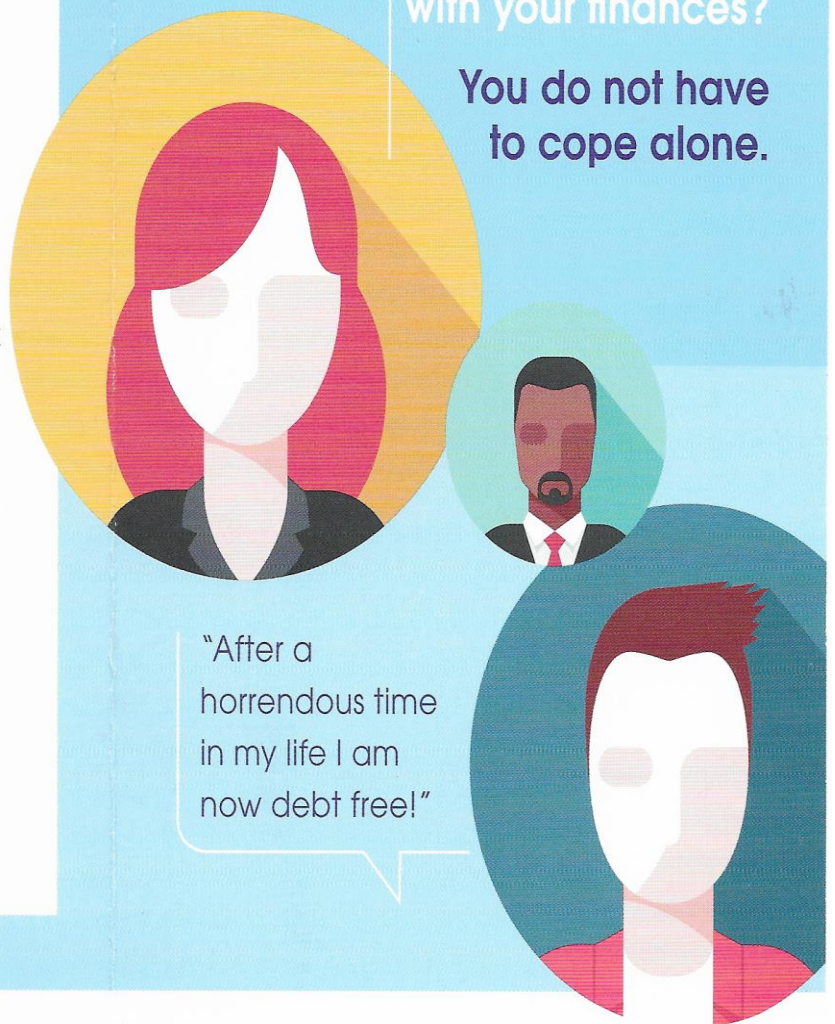


[www.frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk](http://www.frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk)

## FREE DEBT & BENEFIT ADVICE

Are you struggling  
with your finances?

You do not have  
to cope alone.



"After a  
horrendous time  
in my life I am  
now debt free!"

### Frontline Debt Advice (UK)

Registered Address: c/o Three Counties Church,  
Haslemere Locality Office, Lion Green, Haslemere,  
Surrey GU27 1LD

A Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered in England No. 7136786

Registered Charity No. 1134908

Licensed by the FCA to provide Debt Adjusting & Counselling No. 694921

FRONTLINE® is the registered trade mark of  
Frontline Debt Advice (UK)





## Food Bank Updates

Our opening times are: -

**Stock and Donations: Mondays and**

**Wednesdays: 9.30 am – 11.30 am**

**Distribution: Tuesdays and Fridays:**

**9.30 am – 11.30 am**

**At Petersfield Methodist Church**

For more information please check our website: [Petersfield Food Bank](http://pactfoodbank.org.uk)  
([pactfoodbank.org.uk](http://pactfoodbank.org.uk))



Open every Wednesday from 2.30pm till 3pm. You can meet us, enjoy a cuppa and take away your food bags. Can't get to St. Paul's? Then a Wednesday delivery can be arranged if a request is

made by lunchtime on Monday. Text or call Nigel on 07598 949379 or Sarah on 07741 455041.

The Liss Foodbank is for surrounding villages as well as Liss. It can be accessed for your short-term need without a referral.

Food donation points are the St. Mary's Church porch, Station Road and the Triangle centre reception (mornings), or bring donations to St. Paul's on a Wednesday afternoon.

### Free Shop Petersfield

The Shop collects food from supermarkets, farms, community gardens and others, that would otherwise go to waste.

Anyone is welcome to come along and take what they need.

It is not part of the Food Bank; the goal is purely to keep good food out of landfill.

The Free Shop is located to the right of Petersfield Station Entrance.

**Opening times: Wednesday 1.30 pm – 3 pm**

**Friday & Saturday 10 am – 11.30 pm**

For more information contact: [easthampshirerail.co.uk/freeshop-shop](http://easthampshirerail.co.uk/freeshop-shop)

Or call Lucy on **07988043870**

## Petersfield and Liss United Reformed Church

### Update on regular weekday activities.



Please note the following updates.

- **Drop in Tea** – Drop-In Tea for March will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity for anyone to come to the CFC for a chat and a cuppa and even some cake! Call in any time between 2 and 4pm. Come when you can - go when you must! We look forward to seeing you then.

Julie, Keith and Mary

### Rotas – March

Date	Duty Elders	AV
March 3	Isaac Oru	David Darling
March 10	Ron Wing	Keith Evans
March 17	Mary Fair	Jonathan Oru
March 24	Jo Oru	Carolyn Barton
March 31	Keith Evans & Wendy Cassar	Roy Knight

### Welcomers' Rota

Date	Welcomers
March 3	Tom Pejnovic
March 10	Graham Fountain
March 17	Wendy Cassar
March 24	Anne Glenn
*March 31	Steven Glenn

**\*Clocks go forward on Easter Sunday March 31st**

- Please arrive 30mins before start of the service
- When all have arrived, count the adults and children, and enter the numbers on the notice board record sheet.
- Carry the offertory box to the Communion Table for the service.
- If your date is not suitable, please adjust with another person as a swap.

## Petersfield and Liss Church Calendar – March 2024

Please note Services are held at College Street, Petersfield unless otherwise stated.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Mary Fair</b>	
Monday	4	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	5	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting	CFC
Thursday	7	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2.30 pm	Home Group	1 Crundles
Friday	8	10.30 am	Friday Fellowship	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	11	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4 – 5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	12	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2-4 pm	Drop-in Tea	CFC
		7.30 pm	Women's Fellowship	CFC
Thursday	14	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		7.30 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	18	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	19	9.30 pm	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
		7.30 pm	Church Meeting	CFC
Thursday	21	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
		2.30 pm	Home Group	1 Crundles
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Thursday	28	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday Service URC</b>	

## Petersfield & Liss Church Calendar –(Continued)

<b>Friday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Walk of Witness</b>	<b>Meet at PMC</b>
		<b>10 am</b>	<b>Good Friday Service in the Square</b>	<b>Town Square</b>
<b>*Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Easter Day Service - Minister</b>	

**\*Clocks go forward on Easter Sunday**



### **Easter Prayers 2024**

Almighty, God,

You hold all things in Your hands. You make sense of everything!

So often we only see where we are now, what we feel now, in this moment - but You know the end from the beginning.

In all our troubles, our assurance is in Your sovereignty, in Your mighty act of salvation.

Thank you that, just as after winter comes spring and after night comes morning, so, most gloriously, after death on Good Friday, comes resurrection on Easter Day!

***Christ is Risen*** - and we can know, by the indwelling of his Holy Spirit, that ***He is risen indeed!***

We can know, in our real and every-day lives, where our help comes from.

Hallelujah! Thank you, living Lord,

In Jesus name.

Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### **Your will**

Father, I wait Thy daily will;

Thou shalt divide my portion still;

Grant me on earth what seems Thee best,

Till death and heaven reveal the rest.

*By Isaac Watts*

# Mission News

*For your information and prayers, there will be news from one or more Missions each month. If you support a mission that has any information and prayer updates, please send these to the editor so that they can be included*



## UKRAINE MISSION UPDATE

With spring just around the corner, we have just funded a seeds project for villagers in Transcarpathia. Last year, this was a very successful project and in 2024 we are providing 350 families in Akli, Aklihegy, Gyula and Ujakli with vegetable seeds. This will enable them to grow more of their own food. We pray that this year's harvest is as good as last year's.

Winter weather, as expected, has limited house rebuilding by Pastor Sergey and his team in Chornobaivka, Kherson. The weather has not, however, prevented the start of a related project – the first local construction of 'prefabs', pre-fabricated temporary houses. This is great news. These little buildings (one room for cooking, living & sleeping; second smaller room for shower & toilet) are for those poor folk whose dwellings were so severely damaged they could not be repaired.

Lastly, but certainly not least, thank you once again for your kindness to Ukraine Christian Partnership. We are most grateful for all your prayers and donations, including £110 from Connie's Handicraft Group. Please could you continue to pray for the war situation, that peace may not be long in coming. We think particularly of Pastor Sergey and his congregation as the area is still subject to regular, random Russian attacks. Please pray they may continue to be protected during this terrible time and that they would know God's comfort and strength. Thank you.

**David Darling**

**Ukraine Christian Partnership ([www.ukraineCP.org](http://www.ukraineCP.org))**



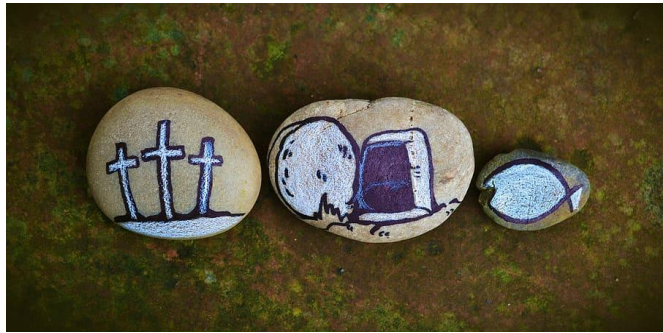


*Start of prefab house construction in Chornobaivka*



Olena, an elderly lady living in Posad-Pokrovske. Her humble abode was badly damaged by explosion. She will stay there the winter. The team fixed one wall (left) and rebuilt the roof.

## Looking for the Resurrection



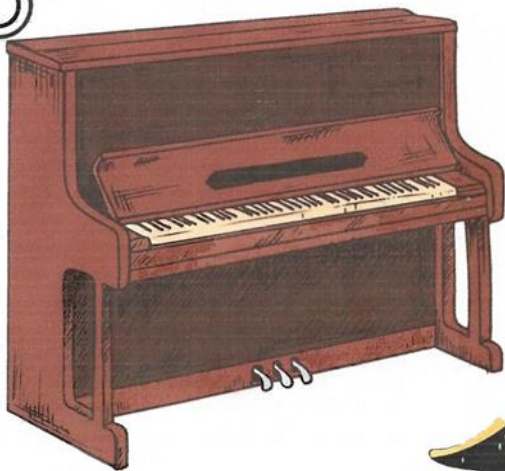
An old couple are driving down the motorway when the wife gets a call from their daughter. *'Mum, there's a car driving the wrong way down the motorway!'* The wife warns her husband that there is a lunatic on the motorway. Her husband, clutching the wheel in terror, replies: *'One lunatic? There are dozens of them, all headed straight for us!'* What we see is determined by our perspective on life.

In the Nicene Creed we say: *'We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.'* In the gospel accounts of the Resurrection, there is a lot of looking and seeing. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome went early to the tomb. They saw the stone rolled aside and inside the tomb a young man dressed in white said to them: *'Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him...He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him'* (Mark 16: 6,7).

Like the women we would probably have been left *'trembling and bewildered'* by what we saw that morning. Had the body been taken? Was the young man an angel or deceiver? Was Jesus raised to life again, or was this an elaborate hoax?

Easter gives us a choice. We can approach life looking for disappointment, fear and despair. Or we can look for resurrection and find not just an empty tomb but encounter the living Christ. He continues to meet us in our daily lives bringing new hope, forgiveness of sin, healing and wholeness and the assurance of His presence through the darkest of times. God invites us to see our lives differently and look for Christ's resurrection life at work in our lives and the people around us.

*Afternoon*  
**TEA WITH MIKE ON PIANO**



**2-4PM**



**Saturday 20th  
April**

**AT Petersfield  
and Liss URC  
College street**

## Eco corner - information and updates from the Eco Group

Plastic bag recycling is available at some supermarkets including Waitrose and Tesco's Petersfield.

Soft plastic packaging can be returned to the Causeway Tesco store, the majority of which can then be recycled (80% in a trial), e.g. fruit and veg packaging, salad bags, crisp packets.

**Tetrapak Cartons** and paper containers (such as Pringles tubes without lids.) can be recycled at the bank site at Tesco Petersfield, The Causeway, GU31 4JR

See the adjacent **Petersfield infant school recycling poster**, but if it is more convenient to you, there is a crate in the CFC for these items. Please place your products – toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes; Pringle tubes, **clean and tied in a bag**.

### **Update on Minimal Plastic stores.**

**Refill and Replenish**, 15 the High Street, Petersfield.

*Sadly, this store will be closing on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March.*

*Goods will still be available until then.*

**Juniper**, 16 Lavant Street, Petersfield, Mondays to Saturdays, 9am - 5pm

Sell food stuffs, handwash, floor cleaner, other cleaning products and other items.

1. Bring your clean containers (Tupperware, bags, jars etc)
2. Weigh your containers.
3. Fill your containers.
4. Reweigh your containers.
5. Pay.

Also available at limited times - artisan sourdough bread. See shop window for details.



## Recycling at Petersfield Infant School

We welcome the following items which help to raise valuable funds for our school

- used batteries
- empty toothpaste tubes, used toothbrushes & toothbrush heads
- empty crisp packets (not tubes)
- used pens used stamps
- red, green or blue plastic milk bottle tops
- unwanted spectacles (without the cases)
- household cleaning wipes packaging
- tinted fabric conditioner bottles and caps
- dishwasher and laundry capsules or tablets plastic packaging
- plastic air freshener packaging,  
air fresheners and cartridges
- any brand of flexible plastic cheese pouches
- plastic nets from mini cheese packets
- any brand of individual plastic cheese wrappers
- any brand of sliced cheese protective plastic film

All of these items help raise much needed funds for our school with the exception of the used stamps which raise money for Canine Partners and the spectacles, which go towards the Lions Club of Petersfield 'Sight For Life' initiative  
Simply drop your recycling at the Front Door on St Peters Road and we will do the rest!

**THANK YOU!**

## **10<sup>th</sup> March - Mothering Sunday & Mother Church**

The Fourth Sunday in Lent was called 'Mid-Lent' or 'Refreshment Sunday', when the rigors of Lent were relaxed more than was normal for a feast day. It is called Mothering Sunday as a reference to the Epistle reading for the Day (Galatians 4:21-31). The Lenten Epistles follow from each other with teaching about our life as Christians and how we are to follow Christ.

On Mid-Lent Sunday the Epistle talks of bondage and freedom; the bondage of the Law and the Old Covenant as compared to the freedom in Christ, "the promised one", and the New Covenant. Verse 26 reads "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." We gain our freedom from Christ and, as it was seen before the Reformation, the Church.

Thus, Mothering Sunday is about the freedom that we gain through the promise of Jesus Christ delivered through our Mother the Church. People were encouraged to go to their 'Mother Church' (their home church or their home Cathedral) to worship and give thanks. Hence apprentices, and others, went home for the weekend and often brought gifts (or accumulated pay) home to their family.

On the other hand, Mother's Day is a secular festival invented in 1904 and is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May in most countries in the world. The UK seems to be the exception. In recent years Mothering Sunday has been hijacked to take the place of a special, secular day to give thanks for our mothers.



### **Mother's reward**

A man was decorating his new den and decided it was a good place to display all the awards he and his two sons had won at various athletic competitions. When he had filled two whole walls, he remarked to his wife that it was a shame she had no awards to contribute.

The following day, she produced, neatly framed, the birth certificates of their two sons, and added them to the display.

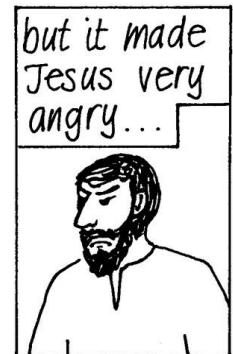
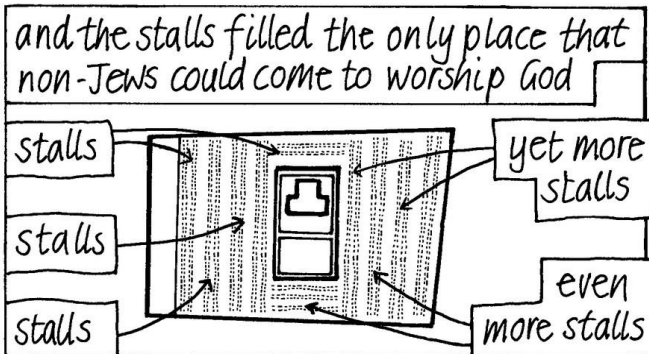
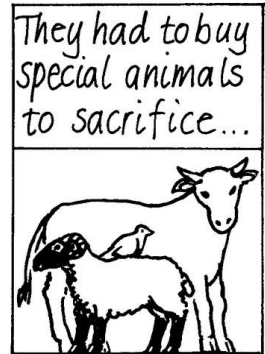
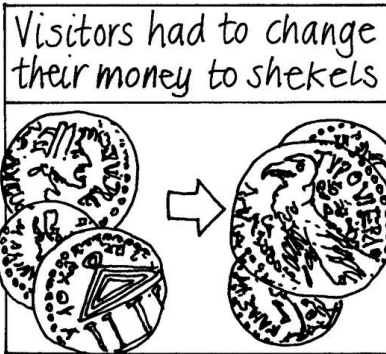
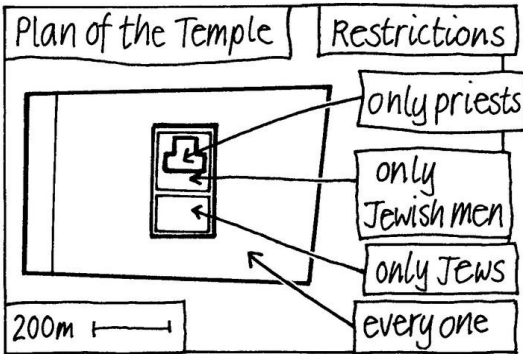
For our younger readers ...

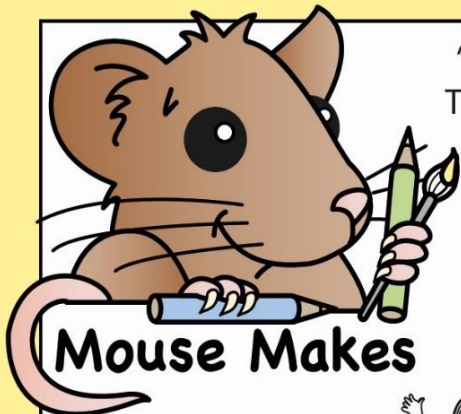
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 21:12-16, Mk 11:15-18, Lk 19:45-48

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions...





# Mouse Makes

"I am the **resurrection** and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die."

John 1:25



READ the Bible passages to find the answers to the crossword clues

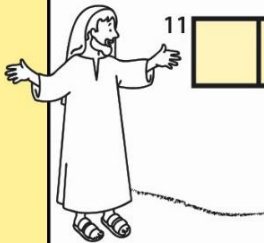
Matthew 21:1-11

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



Matthew 26:17-29

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



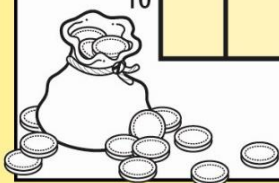
Matthew 26:36-75

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



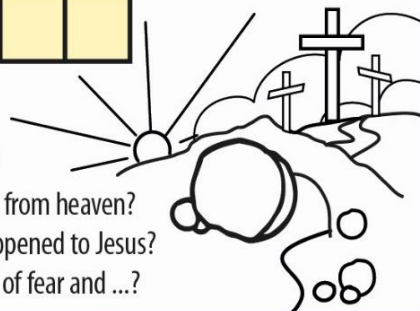
Matthew 26:14-16

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



Matthew 28:1-10

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?



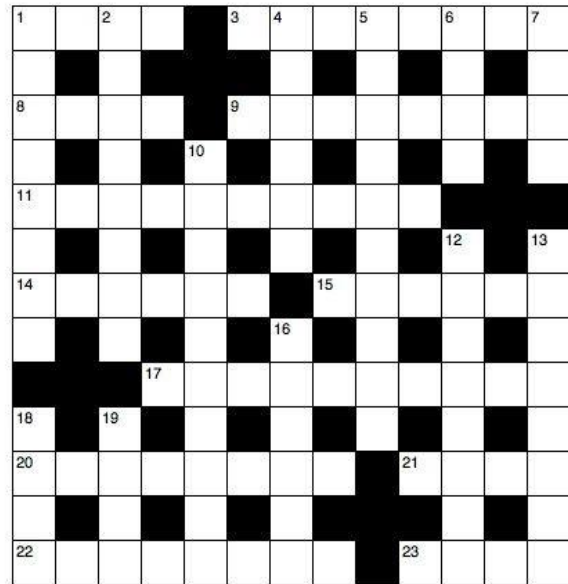
A crossword puzzle grid with the following clues and illustrations:

- 1** (Down): "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die." (John 1:25)
- 2** (Across): Jesus' mode of transport.
- 3** (Across): Crowd's shout.
- 4** (Across): Clothes put down.
- 5** (Across): Item cut down for the road.
- 6** (Across): Jesus' feast.
- 7** (Across): People Jesus celebrated with.
- 8a** (Across): Jesus' betrayer.
- 8d** (Across): Silver pieces paid.
- 9** (Across): Jesus' crown.
- 10** (Across): Jesus' tomb.
- 11** (Across): Jesus' meal.
- 12** (Across): Jesus' disciples.
- 13** (Across): Jesus' body wrap.
- 14** (Across): Jesus' tomb.
- 15** (Across): Jesus' denier.
- 16** (Across): Jesus' betrayer.
- 17** (Across): Jesus' crown.
- 18** (Across): Jesus' denier.
- 19** (Across): Jesus' tomb.

Illustrations include: a mouse, Jesus, a donkey, a crowd, a palm branch, a chalice and bread, four men, a bag of silver, an empty tomb, and a sun.



## Crossword for Easter 2024



### Across

1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)

3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — — ' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)

8 Seep (4)

9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)

11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)

14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)

15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12–13) (6)

17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)

20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)

21 Sail (anag.) (4) 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)

23 Eye sore (4)

### Down

1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)

2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)

4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)

5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)

6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)

7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)

10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)

12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)

13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)

16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)

18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)

19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)

## Sudoku

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

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Easy

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

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Medium

### A quiz for Easter

*This is based on Matthew 27.*

### Questions



1. Who planned to have Jesus executed?
2. To whom did they go for help to 'catch' Him?
3. What did they give in return for Jesus?
4. What did they do with Jesus?
5. What did Judas do then?
6. What did the governor ask Jesus?
7. What was the name of the other prisoner?
8. Why did Pilate wash his hands?
9. Who helped Jesus carry His cross?
10. What was the written charge?
11. When did darkness come over the land?
12. What did Jesus cry to God?

## Smile Lines

### Moses and climate change

When Moses went up the mountain one day to meet with God, the Lord said he had both good news and bad news for him. Moses asked, "What's the good news?"

God replies, "Moses, I shall visit plagues upon the Egyptians. I shall cause their rivers to run red with blood. I shall cause frogs to infest their houses, and lice to infest their bodies. I shall cause flies to swarm upon them. Their cattle shall die; boils will infect both man and beast. I shall cause hail to destroy their crops; and locusts shall devour anything green that is left in their land. Darkness will cover their land for three days and nights. I shall then lead you through the wilderness as a pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night. I shall split the waters of the sea. I shall feed you with Manna that forms upon the ground until the children of Israel reach the Land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses replied, "That's GREAT, Lord! What could possibly be the bad news?"

"You, Moses, shall write the Environmental Impact Statement."

### Helping

If it's true that we are here to help others, what are the others doing here?

### Musings on life...

I'm taking care of my procrastination issues. Just you wait and see.

I hate it when I see an old person, and then realize we went to school together.

My boss calls me 'The Computer'. Nothing to do with intelligence; I go to sleep if left unattended for 15 minutes.

**News from the United Reformed Church**  
 items from the February edition of the Synod News



**2024 Synod Meetings – Save the Dates**

NEW DATE: Wednesday	24th April	(online in the evening)
Saturday	12th October	(in person, all day, United Church Winchester)

**Induction of Michael Hopkins**

For those who have not already responded and would like to attend Michael's induction on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at 3pm at London Street URC, Basingstoke, please let me know by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March at the latest for catering purposes. Many thanks.

Deborah - [office@urcwessex.org.uk](mailto:office@urcwessex.org.uk)

**Moderator's photo/drawing request**

Our incoming Moderator, Michael Hopkins, would like to have a small range of notelets/greetings cards printed with images reflecting Wessex.

Everyone in the Synod is invited to send in photos or artwork that they think is suitable, and as many as possible will be used. Michael is not particularly looking for photos or drawings of church buildings, but anything that conveys an idea of Wessex.

Some parameters:

- You can interpret Wessex however that speaks to you.
- Everything submitted must be original, and by submitting you grant permission to the Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church to use any material submitted for stationery and/or publicity in perpetuity.
- No photos of identifiable people please, to avoid safeguarding or data privacy difficulties. Unidentifiable people in the background are fine.
- Everything must be electronic, so if you draw, paint, etc. please scan it and send in an electronic file.
- Please use wetransfer.com or equivalent for large file sizes.

Send to: [office@urcwessex.org.uk](mailto:office@urcwessex.org.uk)

**Deadline: Monday 13 May**

## Children's Camp – *bookings now open*

**28 – 31 May 2024 at Oakwood Activity Centre.** For children in school years 4 – 7, (ages 7 – 12). Early bird bookings before 28 April 2024 – cost £70 per child.

[Further information](#) on the Synod Website.

## Wessex Synod Big Day Out 2024

Following the success of the last Synod Big Day out at Hollycombe Steam in the country, we have booked the site again for our exclusive use on Saturday 4 May 2024, 10am – 5pm.

There will be more steam rides open this year and additional programme activities provided by Wessex Synod.

We invite all churches, church user groups and community groups with links to URCs and LEPS in Wessex Synod to come and enjoy a day of fellowship, fun and worship.

Ticket prices are the same as in 2022:

£8 per adult, £5 per child - for up to 10 rides on the attractions

New this year are tickets for unlimited rides on the attractions:

Adult £10.50      Child £7.50

A free ticket can be booked for an accompanying carer.

Hollycombe's fabulous new café will be open this time and there will be other food and refreshment outlets. You are welcome to bring your own picnic.

We have listened to feedback and so this time the layout for the Synod activities will be more central and accessible for all. Synod activities include a large marquee with worship, stories and entertainment, as well as a marketplace with crafts, Synod Youth Executive, and church connections, forest church and a nature walk.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar

March	3	The Spire Church, Farnham; Christ Church, Marlow
	10	Trinity, Charminster; London Street, Basingstoke; St Peter's Shared Church Guildford
	17	Trinity United Church, Ringwood; Jersey, St John, The URC in Jersey
	24	St Mark's Shared Church Bordon; St Columba's, Oxford
	31	Three-Legged Cross; Ryde, Isle of Wight; St Andrew's URC, Walton and Weybridge

### Solutions

**ACROSS:** 1, Wine. 3, The alert. 8, Ooze. 9, Passover. 11, Garden Tomb. 14, Cannot. 15, Elisha. 17, Gethsemane. 20, Own house. 21, Lisa. 22, Flogging. 23, Styer.

**DOWN:** 1, Wrong act. 2, Nazarene. 4, Health. 5, Assemblies. 6, Envy. 7, Turn. 10, Before long. 12, Iscariot. 13, Take care. 16, The Son. 18, Loaf. 19, Unto.

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

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

### Easter quiz

#### Answers

1. *All the chief priests and elders*
2. *Judas*
3. *30 pieces of silver*
4. *Bound Him and handed Him to Pilate the governor.*
5. *Threw the money into the temple and hanged himself.*
6. *Are you the King of the Jews?*
7. *Barabbas*
8. *To proclaim that he was innocent of Jesus' blood*
9. *Simon of Cyrene*
10. *This is Jesus, the King of the Jews*
11. *From noon until three*
12. *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

## Lectionary Bible Readings for March



March 3	Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
March 10	Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21
March 17	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33
March 24	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
March 31	Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

### **Important - Sensitive issues**

**As the Messenger is included in the Church Website, it is important that all the content is suitable for public exposure. When composing an article, if there is anything at all that you consider should be removed before publishing on the website, please inform the editor, Carolyn Barton.**

**The articles contained in this magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Petersfield and Liss URC leadership.**

The deadline for the **April Messenger** is March 17th. Please send articles to Messenger Editor, Carolyn Barton, tel 01730 265884 e-mail carolynbarton.barton6@gmail.com

## Church Contact Details

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Minister	Rev Joshua Thomas Tel 07734 254983 <a href="mailto:minister@petersfieldurc.com">minister@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
Church Office	Church Centre Manager Mrs Esme Kelly Office Hours 9am-12noon Tuesdays to Fridays	
Church & Community Worker	Mrs Jo Hopkins 01730 266475 <a href="mailto:communityworker@petersfieldurc.com">communityworker@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
Telephone	Church Family Centre 01730 266475	
Website	<a href="http://www.petersfieldurc.com"><u>www.petersfieldurc.com</u></a>	
E-mail	<a href="mailto:churchcentremanager@petersfieldurc.com">churchcentremanager@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
Sunday Services	Mornings at 10.30 am Services will be held at College Street	
Secretary	Mrs Carol Tubbs 39 Rotherbank Farm Lane Liss Forest GU33 7BJ Tel 01730 893489 Mobile 07766 412160.	
Treasurer	Mr Jim Cleverly, 4 Crundles, Petersfield GU31 4PJ Tel 01730 300558	

### ***Petersfield United Reformed Church Mission Statement***

*“As a congregation worshipping God: we seek to reach out with the love of Jesus; to worship God in our daily lives; to draw others into the knowledge and love of Christ; and to make disciples”.*