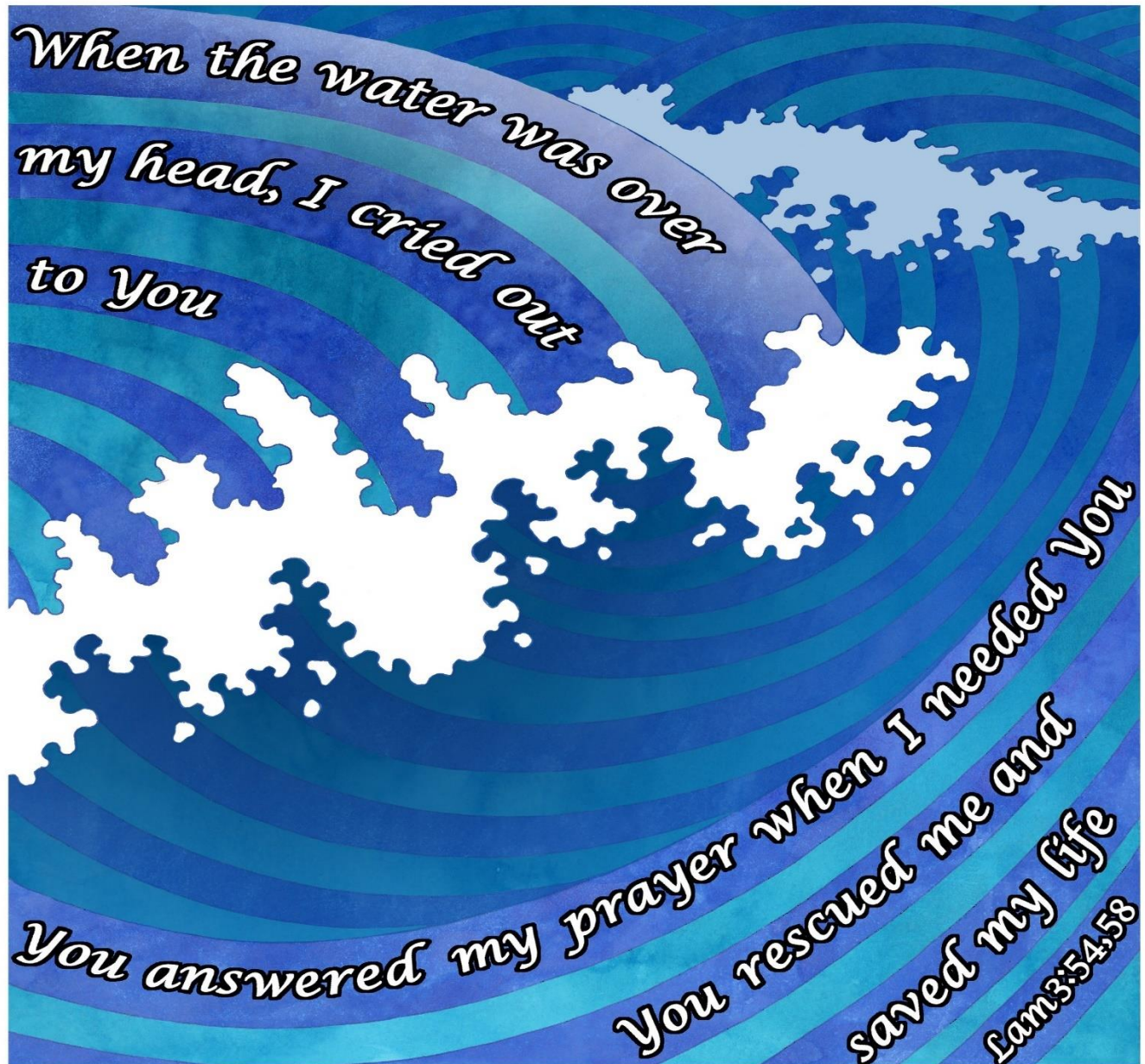


# THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



March 2023 No. 716

## From the Minister ...

The former United States Ambassador to Germany, James B. Conant, once said this; 'Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out.' As you will all know, we are about to enter a substantial project renovating our church sanctuary, this is inevitably going to bring about disruption to how smoothly things run for us as a church and when the works are complete, I recognise that a lot will have changed. Change can be difficult to come to terms with and whilst we do not want anybody being upset, we have to take that quote and run with it, sometimes decisions need to be taken and somebody has to stick their neck out in order for us to make progress. The Elders and I are extremely grateful to Tim Abbott and Wendy Cassar for being those people who will have decisions to make over the coming months and I would ask you all to be supporting them both in and through your prayers, recognising that some decisions that must be taken will not please everybody, but we move forward together with humility and grace recognising that this project is ultimately in God's hands and we strive to do God's will.



At church meeting last month, I spoke about how we would need to start having some conversations about how we might worship together during the months in which the sanctuary space is out of use to us. Unfortunately, whilst we have the use of the CFC, this only comfortably seats 50 people and recently our numbers have been considerably higher than this. Several options were considered including the usage of our site up at Liss for a more traditional contemplative service earlier in the day before holding a more family friendly service up at Petersfield, or simply running two services at Petersfield in the CFC. We recognise that some who might prefer a more traditional time of worship together may have issues getting up to Liss and so we want to ensure that if this is the path we take, it is going to be accessed by those who would like to be there. We had a fairly detailed conversation about this at elders and agreed that the best way forward would be for us to produce a questionnaire which will be sent to all members and adherents asking questions such as, which kind of service would you prefer, are you able to travel, are you able to offer transport to others etc.? Please get thinking about these things, we aim to have a questionnaire ready to go at the start of March.

Away from all of the building project stuff, I'm delighted to report that we are going to be having a church away day alongside the congregation from London Street URC, Basingstoke (my other ministry at this time). This will be taking place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September up at Ditcham Park School. We have booked Jo Patterson who works as a church related community worker in Peckham – London and she will lead us in a couple of sessions thinking about how we can be the church in our community. We will also have time to worship together and a nice chunk of free time in the afternoon in which you can go for a walk, play some board games or sports, experience Forest church or do some creative writing. The grounds of the school are beautiful, and you certainly won't be bored! More information will come your way in the coming weeks, but if you are interested in coming along, please pop your name on the sign-up sheet in the CFC.

Brothers and Sisters, this year is going to be an unusual one, but I urge you to show grace to one another. Ephesians 4:2-6 reminds us of the importance of this, it says; Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Every blessing,

Your brother in Christ,

Josh.



I bind unto myself today the power of God to hold and lead, his eye to watch, his might to stay, his ear to hearken to my need: the wisdom of my God to teach, his hand to guide, his shield to ward, the Word of God to give me speech, his heavenly host to be my guard. - *from St Patrick's Breastplate*

**(St. Patrick's Day is 17<sup>th</sup> March)**



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



### Hard times

In 'Bible in a Year' one of the daily talks was about "Running on empty" Isaiah 40: 28-32

Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,  
and his understanding no one can fathom.

<sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary  
and increases the power of the weak.

<sup>30</sup> Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;

<sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD  
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

Life can feel overwhelming, hopeless at times and emotionally draining. But God will give you direction if you seek through prayer. As believers in Jesus, we can always look to God for help and encouragement when we feel overburdened because "He will not grow tired or weary" The prophet Isaiah states that our Father in heaven will give us strength when we are weary so we can cope with all our burdens and challenges. He will restore and renew us. Hallelujah, let us pray.... Amen

Jo Hopkins



## February's Forest Church at Chapel Common.







# FOREST CHURCH

WEEKLY

**For families of primary school aged children.  
Every Monday (term time) between 4-5pm,  
St Paul's United Reformed Church, Hill Brow Road,  
Liss**

For more information, please speak to Jo Hopkins or  
email - [communityworker@petersfieldurc.com](mailto:communityworker@petersfieldurc.com)

## Head for the wilderness

‘And he said, ‘Which way shall we go up?’ And he answered, ‘The way through the wilderness...’ 2 Kings 3:8

The only way into the Promised Land is through the wilderness. One Bible scholar has called it ‘God’s killing field’. He says: ‘That’s where the things that cause us to stumble in our walk with God are permitted to die; where God ‘weeds out’ those who want only a momentary, superficial relationship with Him, from those who want their lives really to count.”

If your life is a wilderness at present, take heart: God is there with you the whole time. It’s where you learn to stand and to cast all your cares on Him (1 Peter 5:7). Sometimes God will lead you there abruptly, especially if He’s been trying to get your attention. He may want to talk to you about the call He’s placed on your life, but you haven’t had time to listen. Now you find yourself in the wilderness, and you realise that God is the only one who can get you through this.

Here, He permits you to be stripped of pride, so that you can be clothed with humility; stripped of self-sufficiency, so that you can be brought to the place of total dependence on Him. If you’re there today, don’t think that God’s punishing you or that He’s forsaken you. No, He’s simply allowing some things in your life to die, so that other things can be born and grow into life and fruitfulness.

You’ll get through this and by God’s grace you’ll reach your destiny. The truth is – there is no other way to the Promised Land other than through the wilderness.



# 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

## 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 – 12 noon**

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

Or call Lucy on **07988043870**



## **Part time job vacancy for a Director.**

**Petersfield Counselling Service (PCS)** is a highly respected local charity which provides counselling for the people of Petersfield and the surrounding areas.

We are looking for someone who is able to:

- manage the running of PCS
- achieve administrative tasks in a timely, accurate manner
- work closely with a small Board of Trustees
- build links within the local community
- assist in the further development of the service

The applicant will need to have:

- the ability to lead and motivate
- good IT skills
- excellent communication skills
- the ability to self-motivate

The time commitment is 30 hours per calendar month, worked at mutually convenient times, with a mixture of remote and face to face working.

Remuneration: £600/month on a self-employed basis

If you are interested in this role please contact the PCS Chair, Margaret Scott  
[chair@petersfieldcounsellingservice.co.uk](mailto:chair@petersfieldcounsellingservice.co.uk)

**Applications need to be submitted by 10/3/23**



## 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 14<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

- Please note that the Home Group meetings held at 1 Crundles are now on a **Thursday**.



### Rotas – March

Date	Duty Elders	AV
March 5	Val Torrance	David Darling
March 12	Tim Abbott	Keith Evans
March 19	Mary Fair & Peter Jolly	David Oru
March 26	Jo Oru	Carolyn Barton

### Welcomers' Rota

Date	Welcomers
March 5	Tom Pejnovic
March 12	Graham Fountain
March 19	Wendy Cassar
March 26	Anne Glenn

**Please note that the clocks go forward on the 26 March.**

- 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 or the small table for the service.
- If your date is not suitable, please adjust with another person as a swap.

## Petersfield & Liss Church Calendar -March 2023

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

Thursday	2	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2.30 pm	Home Group	1 Crundles
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Mary Fair</b>	
Monday	6	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	7	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting	CFC
Thursday	9	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		7.30 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
Friday	10	10.30 am	Friday Fellowship	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	13	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	14	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 -4 pm	Drop in Tea	CFC
		7.30 pm	Women's Fellowship	CFC
Thursday	16	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2.30 pm	Home Group	1 Crundles
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	20	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss
Tuesday	21	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
Thursday	23	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		7.30 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	27	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
		4-5 pm	Forest Church Liss	St Paul's Liss



## **Petersfield & Liss Church Calendar –March 2023 (Continued)**

Tuesday	28	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		7.30 pm	Church Meeting	CFC
Thursday	30	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way

### **The World Day of Prayer**

**The World Day of Prayer this year has been prepared by women in Taiwan.  
It will be held on Friday 3rd March 2033 at 2 pm in St Peter's Church.  
All are welcome, there will be refreshments after the service.**

#### **Easter Card Bundling**

**This will take place at St Peters Church  
9 am on Monday 13 March**

**Many thanks  
David Barton**

### **1st March: St David's Day, time for daffodils**

1st March is St David's Day, and it's time for the Welsh to wear daffodils or leeks. Shakespeare called this custom 'an honourable tradition begun upon an honourable request' - but nobody knows the reason. Why should anyone have ever 'requested' that the Welsh wear leeks or daffodils to honour their patron saint? It's a mystery!

We do know that David - or Dafydd - of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church. Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others - living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi.

# 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.***



Thank you once again for your continued generosity to Ukraine Christian Partnership. We are very grateful for all your prayers and donations; thank you to Connie's handicraft group for a further £100.

While our main focus is currently on helping those affected by the war, we are pleased to report that the long-planned (but delayed by Covid and start of war) deep well for Gyula has now been drilled. In the hot, dry summers the village runs short of water and this well will be a great boon. However, the drilling did have its moments. Pastor Zoltan (who folk may remember from his visit to us in 2015) went outside to inspect progress, just before a church service. Unfortunately, this coincided with the drill hitting mud - the 'interesting' results and his more usual appearance are below!





All is thankfully peaceful in the villages, although long power cuts and other hardships mean that life is far from normal. Our friends in Kherson have that to endure together with Russian artillery and missile strikes. We thank the Lord that two rockets which landed in the grounds of Pastor Sergei's church did not explode.

*Nativity scene outside Pastor Sergei's church: Unexploded rocket behind crib.*



Due to the war, Pastor Sergei's village church only has about 7 or 8 church members remaining, but they are doing sterling service, providing food and other essential supplies to needy villagers. This has only been possible thanks to all the kind donations we have received. While church members are few, church attendance is quite a different matter. There are now around 150-160 folk attending and the small building means two Sunday services are necessary. Praise the Lord. Light does shine out of darkness.



*Packed Sunday service (generator provides light) and same space used during the week for aid distribution.*

**David Darling**

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

## Let's make 19th March a Mothering Sunday



On 19th March most churches will celebrate their 'mothers'. £millions will be spent on Mother's Day gifts and cards, and children will give flowers to women in church. It's a joy to honour mothers for their love and caring, but our blessings are lessened when we forget the Day's original purpose.

The Mother's Day we know today began on 12th May 1907, in America, when a woman called Anna Jarvis held a service in her late mother's church to honour her work of organising women's groups to promote friendship and health. The idea spread, and in 1914 Mother's Day was declared an official celebration.

But the European Mothering Sunday goes back to the 16th century and was altogether more faith-based. On the fourth Sunday of Lent people went 'a-mothering', going to their 'mother' church, the main church in the region, for a special service. In those days domestic servants rarely had free days, but they were given a day off during Lent, so they could go along with their mothers and families. Times changed, and by the 1900s Mothering Sunday had largely changed into Mother's Day – a celebration of mothers more than mother churches.

Many Scriptures describe the mothering qualities of God, for example Isaiah 66:13 – 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you.' We also see it in women without children. I remember a spinster head teacher in a poor district in Wales mothering and bringing the best out of 'her' children. We see it in our housing and care homes, in older women who have never been mothers as well as those who have, as they comfort a carer who has had a miscarriage, or who needs encouragement. We see it in pastors, and in men who nurture others. Let's thank God for His gift of 'mothering', wherever we find it.

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

The 5 Rs of sustainable procurement, good practice, applicable to work, but also to home and church.

**Reduce:** can you do without or with less? For example, materials or energy? Many of us have put on extra layers through the cold snap to save on energy, is that something we can safely continue to continue saving energy usage? What other examples can you think of? Can we travel less or by train instead of aeroplane? Can we make that tank of fuel go further by adjusting our car driving style? Cycle or walk instead of drive?

**Reuse:** can you reuse or buy reused rather than buy new or single use? The Petersfield charity shops offer good opportunities for this (have you ever admired the beautiful variety of tea and coffee mugs we use at church which have been sourced by Val Hart? Many are from local charity shops), Petersfield freecycle/ free giving on Facebook.

**Reprocessed, refurbished, repurposed, (mended)?**

How good that we have a cobbler (Chapel Street) and can get bicycles and cars mended in Petersfield and clothes altered (Lavant and Chapel Street seamstresses). Do you try to mend things at home?

**Renewable:** what is the product made of, is it a renewable substance or energy, and what is the environmental impact of renewing it?

Many biscuits, soaps and margarines contain palm oil that is not sustainably sourced, so it is worth reading the label. The Bran Tub (which has closed in recent weeks) stocked glycerine soap that did not contain palm oil, has anyone seen another shop supplying such soap? \*\*\*

**Recyclable?** See below.

Exchanging tips and getting local help and ideas from neighbours, family, colleagues, PeCAN, can be very helpful to help us apply these principles. We all benefit from some encouragement and learning from others.

Have you heard of Petersfield Climate Action Network (PeCAN)? They come up with new ideas and information on how to reduce our negative impact on the environment. For instance, having an energy efficiency survey of your home, costing the improvements suggested against the timeframe of benefit gained, or a thermal camera survey to see from where you are losing the most heat.



If you want to know more or just be added to their newsletter they can be found at the following website: - [www.petersfieldcan.org](http://www.petersfieldcan.org)

Tip from a neighbour – a Chimney Balloon (see picture). David has installed it, making the Darlings' living room less draughty.



Tip from PeCAN and a friend – thicken and lengthen kitchen and utility room curtains that needed replacing (26 years old, faded, had shrunk in the wash and needed washing again due to food preparation spatter). Put curtains in places not previously considered, such as across our part glass back door (see picture).

These curtains will better insulate our kitchen and utility room.

**Loft insulation** – discovered that recommendations have increased in thickness in the last 26 years. Another idea for making our home more energy efficient. Have you checked yours?

Possibilities for more than kerbside recycling, for refilling and reusing in Petersfield....to be good stewards of God's beautiful creation!

See the adjacent Petersfield infant school recycling poster, but if it is more convenient to you, there is a crate in the church vestibule for these items which David Barton then kindly takes to the school (the poster is displayed over the crate too).

**Liss junior school**, if you live in Liss or are passing you might like to know that 9am -3pm during term time, Monday to Friday, reception will accept the items below. You can also now leave these items in the bag for Liss junior school in the church vestibule, to be kindly taken to the school by Tony Phillips who lives near the school.

**Liss JS:** - Digestive and other biscuit wrappers; cracker and cake wrappers; crisp packets; oral care products – toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes; Pringle tubes, all clean and tied in a bag.

**Medicine blister packs** accepted at Love Lane community centre for recycling, office open weekdays 0900 -12.30hrs, OR can be left in the same recycling crate in church vestibule adjacent to Petersfield Infant School items.

**Plastic bag recycling** 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 etc.) can be recycled at the bank site at Tesco Petersfield, The Causeway, GU31 4JR Supermarkets, free of single use plastic.

**Refill and Replenish**, 15 the High Street, Petersfield, Tuesdays to Saturdays 9am – 5 pm

**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.

**Fiona Darling, on behalf of the Eco group (Hannah Thomas, David Barton, Val Hart and David Darling)**

\*\*\*I have bought these glycerine soaps from Juniper (Carolyn)



## **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!**



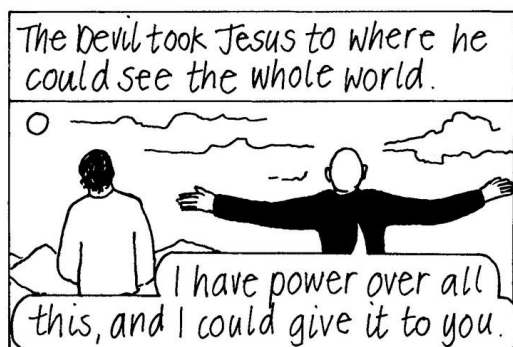
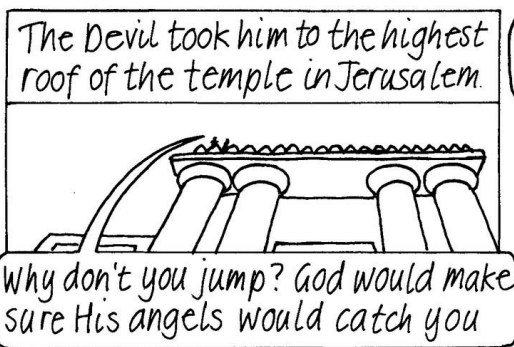
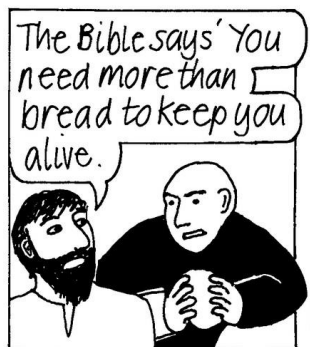
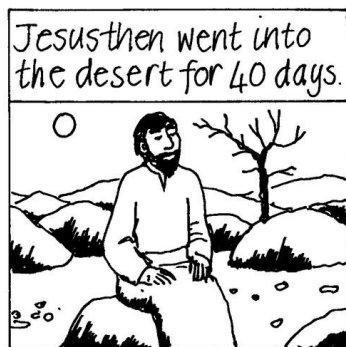
For our younger readers ...

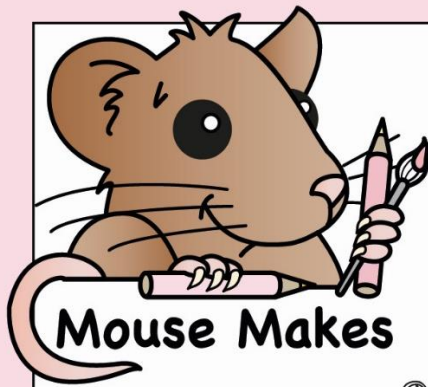
# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Jn 1:29-34, Mt 3:13-17, Lk 3:21-4:13, Mk 1:9-12

People came to John to be baptised - washed in the river Jordan - to say sorry for what they had done wrong. Then Jesus came...





### WHO IS MY MOTHER?

CAIN	ELIZABETH
ISAAC	HANNAH
JESUS	RACHEL
JACOB	REBEKAH
TIMOTHY	EVE
JOSEPH	MARY
SAMUEL	SARAH
JOHN	EUNICE

Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search



REBEKAH  
ELIZABETH  
EUNICE  
RUTH  
MARY  
RACHEL  
LEAH  
ZIPLAH  
MOTHER  
MUM

### BIBLE MOTHERS

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

\_\_\_\_\_  
1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

\_\_\_\_\_  
2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Exodus 6:20

Look up the Bible verses and find out who the Bible mothers are.

**M** \_\_\_\_\_  
Matt 1:16

**O** \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Tim 1:5

**T** \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Kings 1:11

**H** \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Sam 1:20

**E** \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen 34:1

**R** \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen 30:22

How many other words can you make from:

**MOTHERING SUNDAY**



E	E	L	O	I	S	Z	I	L	A	M	J	H
U	V	N	Z	M	A	R	Y	Z	U	O	Z	R
N	E	A	D	U	R	U	T	H	L	T	I	A
I	J	O	C	H	A	B	E	D	E	H	L	C
C	I	M	B	J	H	M	U	M	A	E	P	H
E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	H	R	A	E
R	E	B	E	K	A	H	A	N	N	A	H	L

## Crossword

### Across

1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)

9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)

10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)

11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)

13 Mede (anag.) (4)

16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)

17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)

18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)

20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)

21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)

22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)

23 Edit (anag.) (4)

25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)

28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)

29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been —, he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)

30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

### Down

2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)

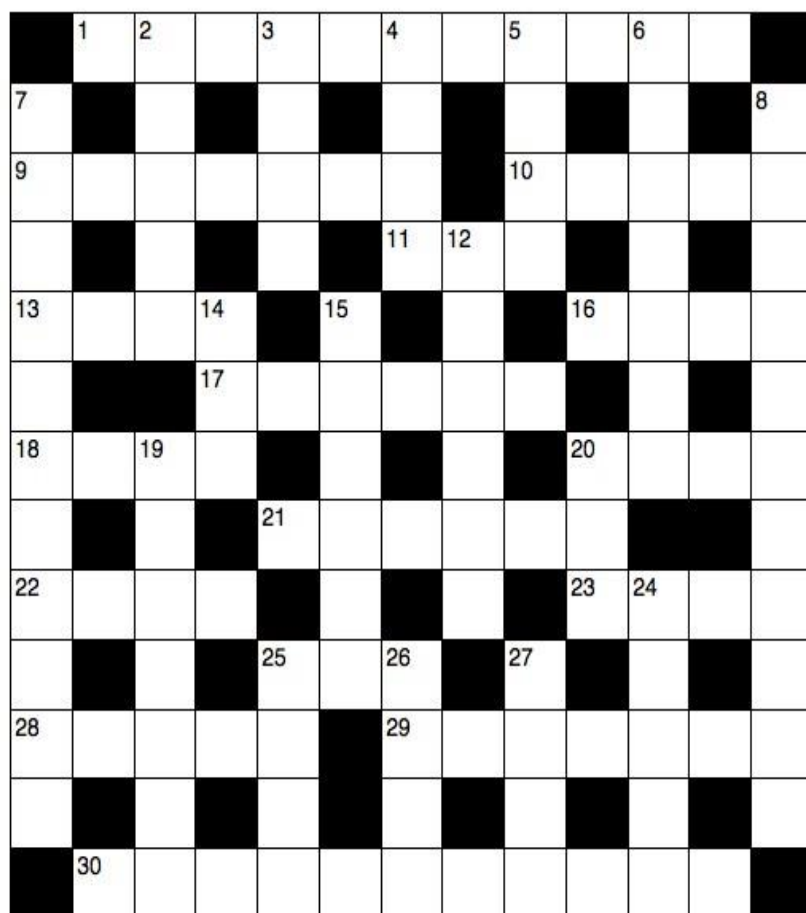
3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4

4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)

5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)

6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)

7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)





8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)

12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)

14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)

15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)

19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)

20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)

24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)

25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)

26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)

27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

## Sudoku

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

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Easy

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

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Medium

## The Bible according to children

*Children's version of biblical stories and events have a charm all their own. The following efforts have not been retouched or corrected (i.e. bad spelling has been left in).*

~ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

~ Noah built an ark, which the animals came on to in pairs.

~ Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

~ The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.

~ Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

## News from the United Reformed Church Taken from the Synod Website



### A Celebration Day – update

~~Saturday 22 April 2023.~~

The Children's and Youth Work committee have taken the difficult decision to cancel this event. April has become increasingly busy with the Moderator's leaving service, Easter weekend and the delayed celebration service in London for the 50th anniversary of the denomination and it is clear to us that another event in amongst this already packed month, may lead to many people having to pick and choose which event to attend which is less than ideal. Rest assured, we will keep talking and planning and we aim to bring you a resource day towards the end of 2023 – beginning of 2024. Watch this space.



### New beginnings for Le Weekend in Fleet

31 March–2 April 2023

You are invited to meet our French friends at the United Protestant Church of France for an in person event over the Palm Sunday weekend.

Together again after 4 years, we will explore how we come together after Brexit and Covid, with economic difficulties, war in Ukraine and climate challenges. How is God calling us to begin again?

Everything we do will be in both French and English, so no language barriers, just friendly food and worship as we journey together once more.

We welcome newcomers and old friends. We will be based at Fleet URC and there will be an opportunity to attend Clare's farewell service on the Saturday afternoon (1st April).

For more information and to register an interest

email [helen.everard158@gmail.com](mailto:helen.everard158@gmail.com) or call on 07716647288.

## Family Film Night

The latest Family Film Night resource – [Lava](#) – has been added to the Synod website. Free to download and use, this exciting resource is designed for families to have fun and explore big questions together, all based around a family friendly film. Each film night has a main theme and follows the same pattern. Watch the film together, have fun doing the activities and then explore using the wondering questions. For families who want to link to the Bible, there are ‘going deeper’ wondering questions to use. This resource can also be used in Sunday Schools, messy church, bible study groups and school assemblies.

**Why not consider hosting a family film night and inviting your community to come along?**

Free to download from the Synod website.

## 2023 Synod Meetings – Save the Dates

Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	on Zoom	6.30pm to 7.30pm	15 min break	7.45pm to 9.00pm
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	In Person all day	venue to be confirmed		

## Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar

March	5	Guildford: Portsmouth Road; Salisbury
	12	Southampton: Pear Tree Green; Reading: St Andrew's; Wareham
	19	The Spire Church, Farnham; Christchurch: Burton Green
	26	Petersfield and Liss; West Moors: St Martin's Southampton: Bitterne Park; Moderator, Clare Downing as she moves to pastures new



## Lectionary Bible Readings for March



March 5	Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9
March 12	Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
March 19	1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
March 26	Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

### 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 **12 March**. Please send articles to  
 Messenger Editor, Carolyn Barton, tel 01730 265884 e-mail  
 carolynbarton.barton6@gmail.com

### Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

DOWN: 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.

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

## **Church Contact Details**

<b>Church</b>	<b>Petersfield : College Street, Petersfield GU31 4AG 01730 266475</b>	<b>Liss : Hillbrow Road, Liss GU33 7PX</b>
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"><b>churchcentremanager@petersfieldurc.com</b></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”.*