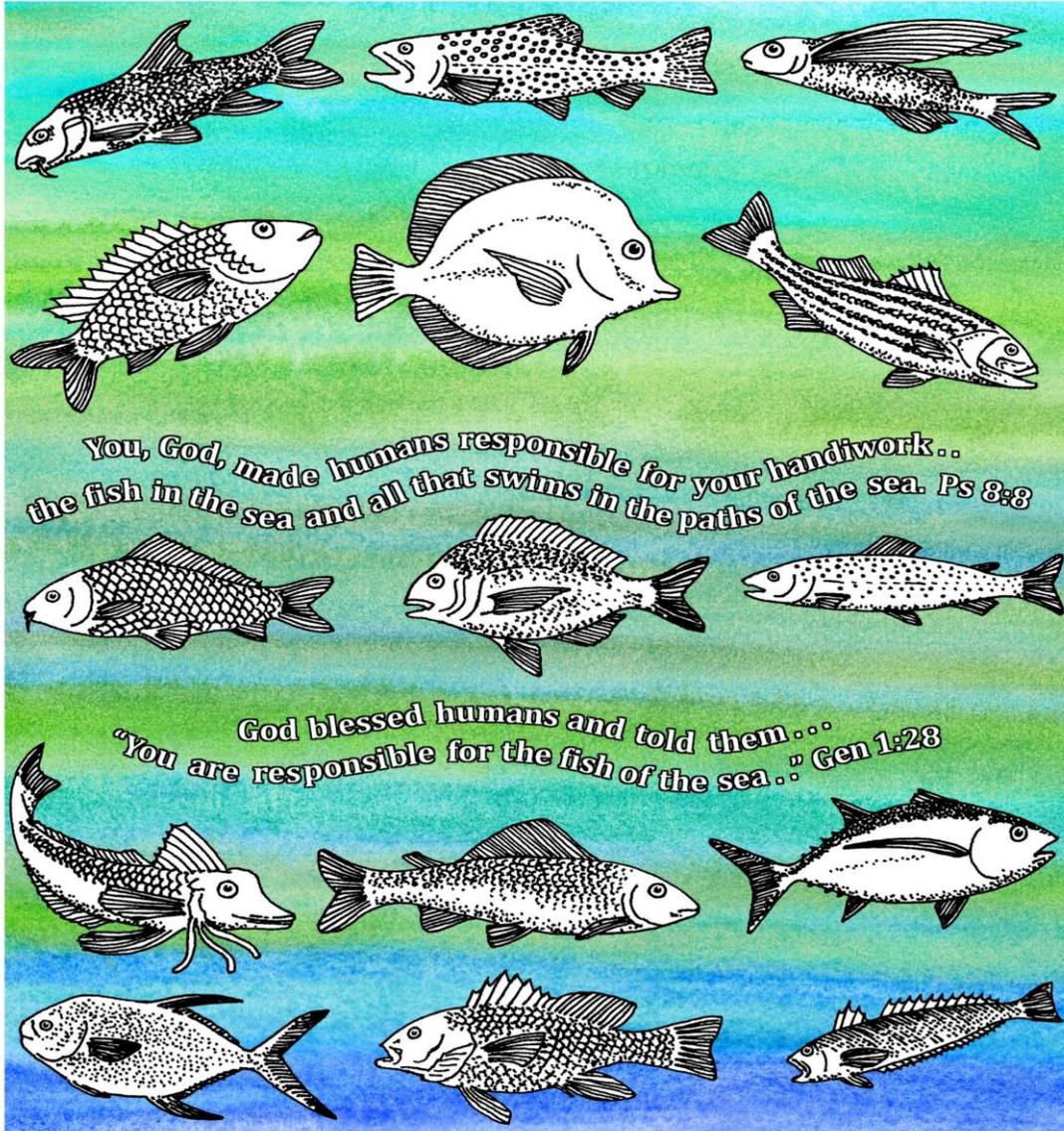


# THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



July 2022 No. 710

## From the Minister ...

Friends, I wanted to start this summer edition of The Messenger by telling you the tale of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. We have a friend who plays the part of Freddie Mercury in a Queen tribute band who were playing over in Southampton as the headliners of an event called The Platinum Festival which was being put on to celebrate the final day of the Jubilee weekend. They were due on stage at 6.30pm and so we thought, excellent, let's go with the children – they will really enjoy being a part of something like that and the end time won't be too late!



We decided to arrive around 4pm, that way, there would not be too much in the way of standing around, we could have a look at the stalls, the children could have a go on some of the funfair rides, we could eat dinner and then it would be about time for the band to come on stage. When we arrived, the sky looked grey, but there was no sign of rain just yet. We met Queen Elsa from Frozen, had a look inside an ambulance and the children both had some glitter tattoos applied and at that moment, the heavens opened! We took shelter in a circus tent which had all sorts of circus equipment for the children to have a go with, and we spent just over an hour in that tent, waiting and hoping for the weather to clear. It didn't... at 6.30pm the organisers decided that there wasn't much of an audience left for the band to perform to and called the day to an end. We are told it will be rescheduled at an inside venue at a date to be determined! What an anti-climax, up until that point it had been an amazing weekend of celebrations for our Queen, and this was, for us, supposed to be the pinnacle of that weekend!

I did however, find myself being asked by the owner of the circus tent (a youth worker who runs these sessions for children and young people in the south of England), what I did as a job and subsequently, whether I would pray a prayer of blessing over his new tent and his job as he had had his previous tent blessed and felt it was a powerful thing to do. My first circus tent blessing in the bag!

I was reminded in all of this though, of the need for us to be adaptive. Willing to change course when the moment came. You will know, that for the past four years, my ministry has been predominantly here in Petersfield and Liss, but that 25% of my time was also spent with the Beacon project in Bordon. The church over there has been on a real journey of highs and lows in that four-year stint

and some of you will have picked up on the fact that there was a major change in leadership at the end of last year in order to encourage the Beacon and the established church of St Mark's to come together and share resources a little more than had already been the case. Effectively, this has now put an end to the Beacon project which I was called initially to serve. Over the past few months, I have been reflecting with various people including the Synod Moderator, on what this might mean for my ministry in Bordon. After a lot of time praying and seeking God's will, it was felt that my time in Bordon would be drawn to a close and my last day working with the church over there will be in August.

There are a few suggestions as to what will fill this time on the table, and we are exploring possibilities at the time of writing and so I don't quite know where God will call me next to serve out this 25% of my time. I've not always been very good at taking things as they come, I want to know and have planned out what comes next; however, God doesn't always work like that. I think particularly of the story of Jonah (and not just because of the sheer amount of water mentioned at the start of this piece)! He was not prepared to go where it was that God wanted him to go, and yet, God still led him to that place. Plans at times need to change, God draws some things to a close in order to open other doors of possibility. It's a silly example, but if my friend's band had played, my new youth worker/circus friend wouldn't have had his tent blessed and we wouldn't have shared that moment together.

The old saying – 'if you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans' seems apt. I had hoped and planned for things to go differently in Bordon, but I, as a human being, am not in charge, God is. So today, I urge you to be responsive to God's changing of the winds, to go where it is you are led and to embrace the possibilities that these changes will bring. I'll keep you updated with news as and when I have any to share

Every blessing,

Your brother in Christ,

Josh.

# Secretary's Snippets!

Hello everyone,

I am writing this just after the Jubilee weekend celebrating the Queen's 70 years. I was so moved by the wonderful variety of events that took place over the 4 days to commemorate our Queen's reign and the number of people who were in London watching and enjoying them. I was also delighted by the number of times the commentators mentioned her Majesty's faith and how important it is to her.

On a local level, over the same weekend, we were delighted to be able to show our faith at the Avenue festivities in Petersfield with lots of people coming and chatting about who we are and what we were doing (mainly advertising our Family Funday and giving away jam tarts!) On the Sunday I was lucky enough to hear Liss Band play at Newman Collard Playing Fields, Liss. On my way through to the fields I passed the newly restored commemorative mosaic which was first produced in 2000. Julie Penjovic had told me about this so I went to have a look and was delighted to see that St Paul's has its place within the whole mosaic. It is a snapshot of life in Liss in 2000. Good to know that St Paul's is now housing the Liss Foodbank in 2022!



As we come to the holiday season I wish you all happy times with, hopefully, some sunny weather!

God bless you all,  
Carol

## **Dates for your diaries**

Tuesday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm – Church meeting

August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> - Holiday at Home



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



### **July**

#### **Let's celebrate together!**

50 years of **Faith-Hope-Love** Since 1972. **300 years of Reformed Worship in Petersfield**

This year to date has been a wonderful time of celebrations and with more to come, we have so much to be thankful for.

In Psalm 145 it says that we will praise our Lord God's name forever, because he is so wonderful, so great. He is the one above all others. His people, you and I will talk about his mighty acts, we will speak of his glorious splendour and marvel at his word. We will not grow weary of sharing his great deeds or singing his praises. Our lord is slow to anger and quick to love. He has compassion for us and all he made. His people extol him on high, we will share the glory of God's kingdom and world with all. His kingdom is ongoing and everlasting for all generations. Our Lord is trustworthy in all he promises. Our Lord upholds the fallen. All our eyes look to you o Lord. You, Lord, are righteous and faithful in all you do. The Lord is always by our side to all who call and trust him. Our God hears our cries. We have so much to celebrate, as our God will be with us forever and ever, let all creatures know and praise him.

I won't be here in 50 years let alone 300 years. But our God will be and not only that, he will be the same then as he is now and forever.

Amen



PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

## INVITATION

You are invited to join us from  
Tuesday 23rd - Thursday 25th August  
for...

### *Holiday at home* *2022*

Food, activities, entertainment for the more  
senior members of our community.

All of this for just £20 per person for the three  
days including a 2 course hot meal each day!

For more information or to book please contact Jo  
Hopkins (church and community worker) on  
[communityworker@petersfieldurc.com](mailto:communityworker@petersfieldurc.com) or call the office  
on 01730 266475

### **August**

As you can see in August, we will be having our Holiday at Home, if you know any folk who live on their own and would not go on holiday because of mobility or finances please let them know about our fantastic 3-day event. We have craft and activities in the morning and after a wonderful two course lunch, entertainment for all to enjoy. We look forward to welcoming our guests to 3 days full of fun and company.

Love

**Jo Hopkins**

# 300th Anniversary Celebration



*Getting ready for the party*



*Guess which one is actually playing?*



*A lovely Serenade*



*Tea and cake – a perfect celebration*

**Photos by kind permission of Tony Phillips**

## **Memories of the Queen's Coronation**

In view of the Jubilee, my memory went back to the Coronation in 1953.

I constructed a television as part of my apprenticeship as a radio and TV engineer. My family were then living in Malvern Road, Hill Brow, Liss.

My mother invited many folk to watch the Coronation, which included the Reverend K. D. KEAY and his family, minister of our St Paul's, which we attended.

I had bated breath that my TV would not fail....

This was Dee's first visit to my home! At the age of 16!

At the end of a successful viewing, my mother made a collection for the Blind. (Mother was a supporter of St Dunstan's, where many Battle of Britain aircrew were treated for burns and loss of sight.)

Dee, in her innocence, thought Mother wanted a new blind in view of the half-dark room to view the TV.

Dee has never lived the moment down!

## **Peter Crane**



## **The Kiss**

An honest seven-year-old calmly announced to her parents that Billy Brown had kissed her after church. "How did that happen?" gasped her mother.

"Well, it wasn't easy," admitted the young lady, "but three girls helped me catch him."

## Arts and Crafts Sessions

We had a very successful two evenings of scrapbooking in May/June with the ladies from Church, a nearly completed book in six hours from scratch. Thank you to all who came. Look out for a different craft later on in the year.

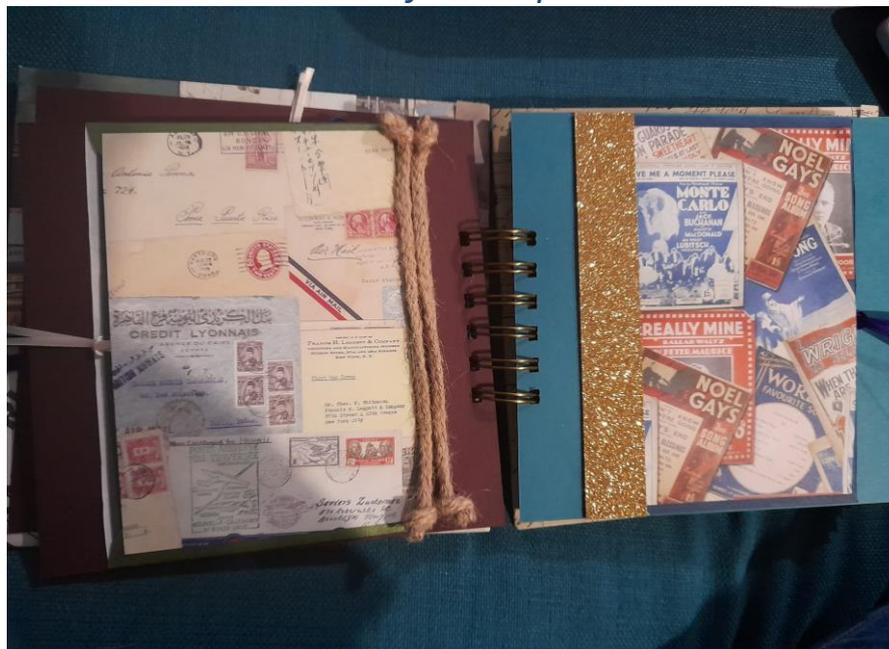


*Look what I made!*



*In the Zone*

## *A Beautiful Scrapbook*





## **Garden of Remembrance**

During the next few months, we are looking to renovate and improve the surrounding area to the Garden of Remembrance at Petersfield.

Since the fence has been replaced at the rear of the garden it has provided us with more space, and as part of the work we would like to have the names of loved ones interred placed on an existing pillar to the right of the garden in the form of small plaques. There will also be a new written record.

To confirm we have all the correct information in the new record please let me have the name of your loved one along with year of birth and year of death. If you would like any further information added to the written record ie: roles and or duties with dates, please include this also.

Any other thoughts or ideas please feel free to let us know.

This Garden of Remembrance allows us to remember those of our family and friends now in God's care, loyal servants to our church.

**Val Torrance**

# 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

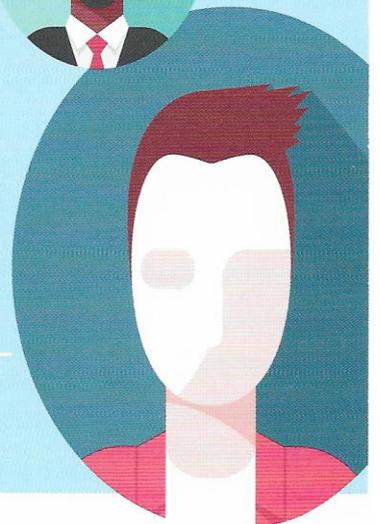


[www.frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk](http://www.frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk)

## 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://Petersfield Food Bank (pactfoodbank.org.uk))  
([pactfoodbank.org.uk](http://pactfoodbank.org.uk))**



We will be open every Wednesday from 2.00pm-3.30pm. This is when you can meet us, have a cuppa and take away your food bags. Delivery will be arranged for those on foot.

In addition, the Ring and Drop system will continue ring **01730 00659/300921** or **text 07570792525** before Monday Lunchtime for a Wednesday morning delivery.

Remember the Liss foodbank is for surrounding villages as well as Liss. It can be accessed without a referral.

Please continue to drop off donations in St Mary's Rectory porch 111 Station road or bring them to the store 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**



Do you enjoy driving?

Do you like meeting people?

Do you have a little spare time, during the week and at weekends?

Would you like to do something worthwhile and rewarding?

If the answer to these questions is 'Yes', then Petersfield Voluntary Care Group (PVCG) would love to hear from you.

As an organisation, we transport people from Petersfield and the local area, who do not have other transport arrangements, to medical appointments.

We are urgently in need of more drivers to accommodate all our requests.

If you would like to know more, please ask Mary Evans or Mary Fair - we do hope to hear from you!



### **The lady who wanted three hymns**

One Sunday a minister announced that the church needed some extra money. He asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra, and as an enticement, added that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

The offering plate was passed around, and to the minister's amazement, someone had put in a cheque for £1,000. He shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to thank the person who'd given the cheque. A very quiet, elderly lady shyly made her way down to the front of the church. The minister told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and asked her to pick out three hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation. She pointed carefully to the three handsomest men in the building and said: "I'll take him, and him, and him."

## Petersfield and Liss United Reformed Church

### Update on regular weekday activities

Please note the following updates.

- **Drop in Tea** – Drop-In Tea for July will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. 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

- **Little Fishes** – this is now running again at **St. Paul's Liss**. This will be Mondays 9.30 am – 11.30 am during term time only.

### Rotas – July/August 2022

Date	Duty Elders	AV
July 3	John Lewis	David Darling
July 10	Wendy Cassar	Keith Evans
July 17	Tim Abbott & Mike P-H	John Lewis
July 24	Mary Fair	Carolyn Barton
July 31	Julie Penjovic	John Lewis
August 7	Jo Oru	David Darling
August 14	Carol Tubbs	Keith Evans
August 21	Keith Evans & Carol Tubbs	John Lewis
August 28	Val Torrance	Carolyn Barton

### Welcomers' Rota

Date	Welcomers
July 3	Anne Glenn
July 10	Peter Jolly
July 17	Jean Collins
July 24	Tim Abbott
July 31	Val Torrance
August 7	Eric Skipper
August 14	Tom Penjovic
August 21	Volunteer needed
August 28	Val Hart

- 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 & Liss Church Calendar – July 2022**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Rev. David Rice (Methodist)</b>	
Monday	4	9.30 am	Little Fishes	St Paul's Liss
		1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
Tuesday	5	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting	CFC
Thursday	7	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC & Zoom
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
Friday	8	10.30 am	Friday Fellowship	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Monday	11	9.30 am	Little Fishes	St Paul's Liss
		1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
Tuesday	12	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2pm – 4 pm	Drop – in Tea	CFC
		7.30 pm	Women's Fellowship	CFC
Thursday	14	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC & Zoom
		7.30 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Rev. Graham Dadd</b>	
Monday	18	9.30 am	Little Fishes	St Paul's Liss
		1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	CFC
Tuesday	19	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
		7.30 pm	Church Meeting	CFC
Thursday	21	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Thursday	28	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	

## Petersfield & Liss Church Calendar – August 2022

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

Thursday	4	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Jo Oru and Team</b>	
Thursday	11	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Thursday	18	10 am	Prayer Meeting	CFC & Zoom
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
Tuesday	22	<b>Holiday at Home</b>		
Wednesday	23	<b>Holiday at Home</b>		
Thursday	24	<b>Holiday at Home</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	



### HIHCT Ride and Stride

This event will be held on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> of September from 10 am to 6 pm. All those who would like to join this fund-raising event, please prepare for taking part in a way that suits you and contact me for details. For all those who may not be able to take part, please support the participants by donating to them for the benefit of Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches fund.

**Robin Hart.**



### Christian Aid Sponsored Stomp

Many thanks to everyone who so generously sponsored Junior Church with their walks for Christian Aid.

A sum of £236.25 was raised including estimated Gift Aid.

**Carolyn Barton**

# 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***

## Support For Ukraine

### UKRAINE MISSION UPDATE

At time of writing, sadly there seems to be no end in sight to the war in Ukraine. We continue to pray for peace.

Thanks to your continuing kind donations (both individual and from Connie's handicraft group) we are providing funds in Transcarpathia for refugee centres and a villager hardship fund. We are also helping both a communal cooking project and villager hardship fund in Kherson, which is a city and region under Russian control. Please pray for the protection and upholding of all the locals involved, especially the pastor who organises the delivery of supplies to individual villagers. Please also pray that we can continue to safely send through funds for as long as they are needed.

For the latest news on our Ukraine work please go to [www.ukrainecp.org](http://www.ukrainecp.org) and click on latest news. There is a separate page for Kherson. Thank you everyone for your continued support - both in finances and in prayer!

Thank you once again for all your support.

David Darling

Ukraine Christian Partnership

*Romans 12:21: Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.*



## **New Books to add to your summer reading now in the Church library**

**'Living Simply- decluttering your heart and your home'** by Fiona Castle and Jan Greenough

(A friendly tour around your spiritual home to help you discover what is important in your life)

**'When Your Husband Doesn't Believe'** by Jeri Odell

(How to grow in your faith and marriage in the hope that one day your partner may enjoy a similar faith)

**'The Life You've Always Wanted'** by John Ortberg

(Spiritual discipline for ordinary people)

**'L is for Lifestyle - Christian living that doesn't cost the Earth'** by Ruth Valerio

(How by making small changes in our everyday behaviour we can learn the secret of a life that is both fair and simple)

**'30 Days'** by Nicky Gumbel

(A thirty-day practical introduction to reading the Bible)

**'How to be a Bad Christian & a Better Human Being'** by Dave Tomlinson

(A guide to Christianity for those who struggle with traditional religion)

**'The Sixty Minute Family - an hour to transform your relationships for ever'** by

Rob Parsons

**'Getting Your Kids Through Church Without them Hating God'** by Rob Parsons

**'Searching Issues - Tackling 7 common objections to the Christian faith'** by

Nicky Gumbel

**'A Lineage of Grace - 5 unlikely women who changed Eternity'** by Francine

Rivers

**Rosemary Ward**

## 22<sup>nd</sup> July The 'Other' Mary

As the traditional Easter story is remembered again this month, you may notice that there is one name that frequently occurs. It is that of the 'other' Mary – not the mother of Jesus but Mary of Magdala, who stood by her at the cross and became the first human being, male or female, actually to meet the risen Christ. That's quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from 'seven devils'. As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

In church history Mary Magdalene became the 'fallen woman', a harlot who was rescued and forgiven by Jesus. And while there is no evidence to prove she was a 'fallen woman', the contrast is sublime: Mary the virgin mother, the symbol of purity and Mary Magdalene, the scarlet woman who was saved and forgiven, the symbol of redemption. Surely, we all fall somewhere between those two extremes.

What we do know is that the two Marys stood together at the cross, the Blessed Virgin and the woman rescued from who knows what darkness and despair.

The second great moment for her was as unexpected as it was momentous. She had gone with other women to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. An angelic figure told them that Jesus was not there, He had risen – and the others drifted off. But Mary stayed, reluctant to leave it like that. She became aware of a man nearby, whom she took to be the gardener. She explained to Him that the body of 'her Lord' had been taken away and she didn't know where to find Him.

The man simply said her name 'Mary' and she instantly realised it was Jesus. She made to hug Him, but He told her not to touch Him because His resurrection was not yet complete. She was, however, to go to the male disciples and tell them she had met Him. She did – and they couldn't believe her.

But Mary's words – 'I have seen the Lord' – echo down the centuries, the very beating heart of the Christian gospel.



JOIN US IN 2022 FOR

# FOREST CHURCH

**Sunday May 15th - 2pm**

**Sunday September 25th - 2pm**

**Saturday December 3rd - 2pm**

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



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

We offer a few tips on possibilities for more than kerbside recycling, for refilling and reusing in Petersfield....to be good stewards of God's beautiful creation!

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

Please see the [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. **Newsflash** - they no longer accept crisp packets, but Liss junior school may still do, see below.

[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 crate for [Liss junior school](#) in the church vestibule, to be kindly taken to the school by one of our members 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.**

**Stop Press:** - Carol can now collect blister packs again as the recycling of these has restarted.

The [Petersfield Household Waste recycling Centre](#), 4-6 Bedford Road, will take items that the kerbside collection won't and this can be checked at [Petersfield | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#). No-one wants to take a part carload to the tip. An opportunity for collaboration with folk who live nearby?

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

Sells food stuffs, handwash, floor cleaner, other cleaning products and other items. (Value for money varies greatly, rolled oats for making porridge recommended for competitive value and brown Basmati rice reasonable).

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

**Juniper** - sustainable goods and refillery, 33 Lavant Street, Petersfield, Mon-Sat 9am-5pm

Similar method of use as Refill and Replenish, different range. Also sell homemade sourdough bread once a week.

For more ideas and inspiration on eco matters save the date- **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July** Petersfield Town Council in collaboration with Petersfield Climate Action Network (PeCAN) will be holding Petersfield's first ever Eco-Fair.

This exciting event “celebrating earth-friendly living” will be held on the Heath and will be a fun, informative day-out for all the family. Get tips and ideas for reducing your carbon footprint whether it be by saving energy in your home, upcycling those clothes you no longer want or by getting back on your bike.

Learn how you can help increase biodiversity with good gardening practice or by letting your garden grow a little wilder. There will be talks, an art exhibition, children's activities, and live music throughout the day, with a choice of food and drink and things to buy, all ethically sourced and using minimum packaging. Entrance is free so come along and have fun.

**Eco church questionnaire** - The Eco Group has started looking at an Eco church questionnaire, wondering whether and when our church might be ready to apply for a Bronze award. The church will be looking at this in our various roles, committees and working on it at church meeting over the coming months and asking ourselves – is there anything we could do, at church and in our own lives, in a way that is better for the environment? The answer will be slightly different for each of us, but every little bit helps in our “environmental and climate emergency”.

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



## 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!**

## **Good grief?**

We are never fully prepared for the death of someone really close to us. Even if they have been thoughtful enough to leave a Will and instructions for their funeral, and although we may have anticipated the outcome of a long period of terminal illness, death itself is raw and affects us in unexpected ways. It takes years to assimilate.

Some try to take some of the sting out of death by making the funeral as cheerful as possible. 'A Celebration of Life' may be preferred to the word 'funeral' and conducted by a civil celebrant rather than a Christian minister. These bespoke ceremonies usually look back rather than forward, with the emphasis on happy memories of the dead person. Although elements from any religion or secular source may be inserted, there is little acknowledgment of the sadness left behind, or our common need of forgiveness and God's promise of life everlasting. The emphasis is on past achievements rather than future hope.

After the body has been cremated or buried and relatives and friends have gone home, the slow, punishing pain of grief begins to take its toll. It takes years to work through and there are no short cuts, whether mourners are religious or not.

The American Rabbi Earl Grollman studied the impact of bereavement, and wrote:

"Grief is not a disorder, a disease, or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical and spiritual necessity, the price you pay for love. The only cure for grief is to grieve."

Christians who are bereaved may chastise themselves if they feel worn down by sorrow. Do they not believe in Christ, "who has prepared a place" for those who love Him"? Yes, but thoughtful friends will remind them that Jesus Himself wept when His friend Lazarus died. Grief is normal, however strong the faith and God's care may be conveyed through the love of friends, when the direct line seems cut off. Good friends will know that mourners are thinking about their loved ones most of the time: it isn't morbid, and they should be encouraged to talk about them.

**Ven John Barton**

For our younger readers ...

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke chapter 2 verses 41 to 51

Every year Joseph and Mary went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival with their family and friends. This year Jesus was twelve.

The women and children went in front to set the pace



Next year, Jesus, you'll be walking at the back with the men.

The Passover feasting lasted eight days...

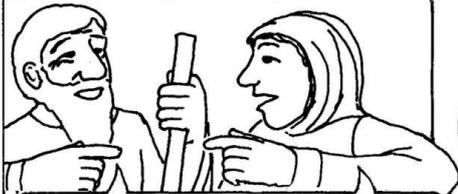


..and then they set off for home again



but without Jesus.

Mary and Joseph didn't find out until the evening



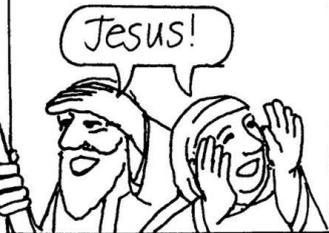
I thought he was with you!

So they walked back to Jerusalem and started searching for Jesus....



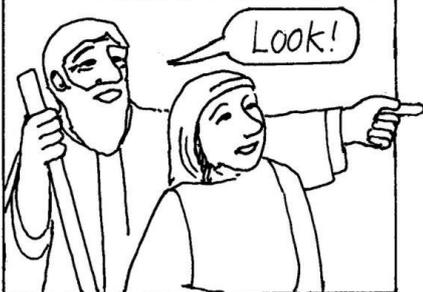
Sorry, I haven't seen him.

..and the next day,



then on the third day

they went to the temple



He was talking with the teachers.



You must be very proud of your clever son

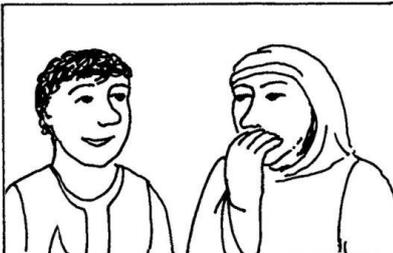


But Mary was not happy.

How could you treat your father and I like this?

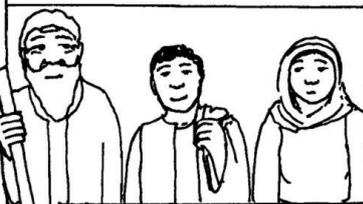


Didn't you know I'd be here?

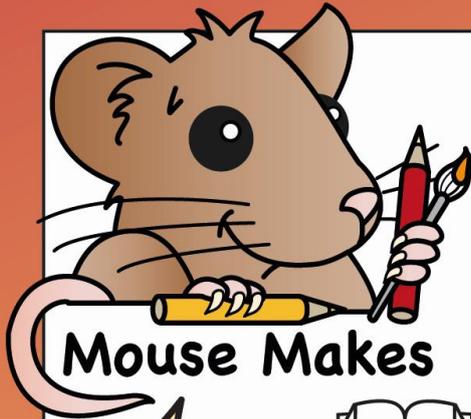


I needed to be where my birth father, God, is working.

Mary thought about this all the way home



... and all her life.



It was the **festival of Pentecost, fifty days** since **Passover** and **Jews** from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to **celebrate**.

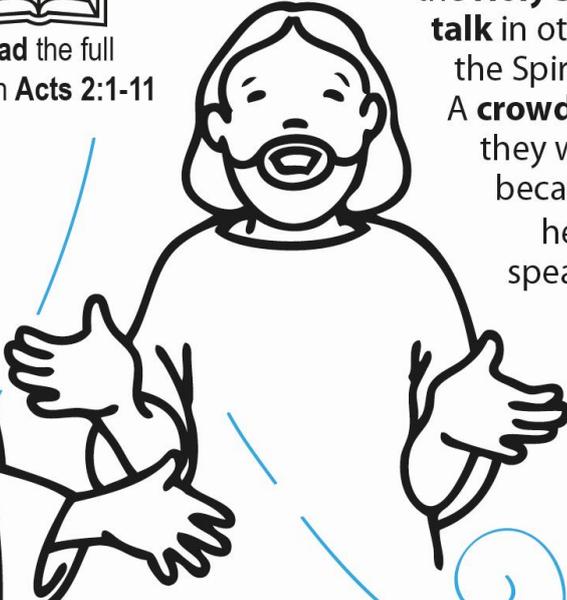
The **Apostles** and other believers were all **together** in one place when they heard a **sound** like a strong **wind** and **saw** what looked like **tongues of fire** which spread out and **touched each** person.

All of them were **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to **talk** in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them.

A **crowd** gathered outside, they were all excited because each of them heard the believers speaking in their **own**



Read the full story in Acts 2:1-11



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

language about the great things **God** had done. About 3,000 people **heard**, **believed** and were **baptised** that day!

All the words in bold type in the story are in the word search, can you find them?

## Crossword

### Across

1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)

3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)

8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)

9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)

11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31)(10)

14 In Cain(anag.)(6)

15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)

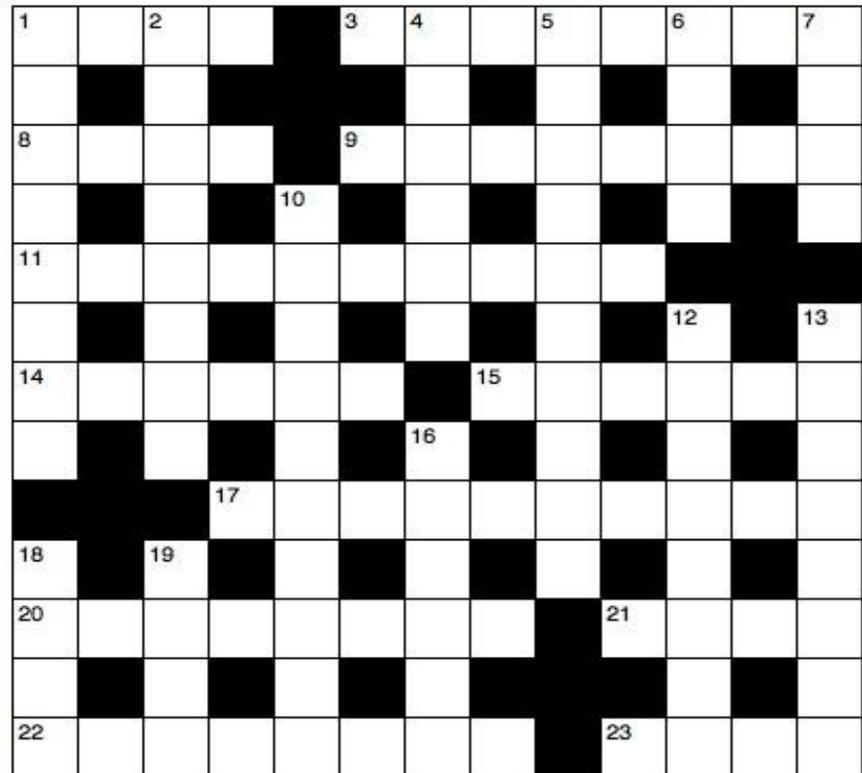
17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)

20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8)

21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom!Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)

22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)

23 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)



### Down

1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)

2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)

4 'We three kings of — are' (6)

5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)

7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)

10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)

13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)

19 Rear(anag.)(4)

( Answers on p. 30 )

### Sudoku

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

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Easy

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

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Medium

### Quick Quotes

Reputation is what men think you are; character is what God *knows* you are. – Anon

Charity is the best way to plenty; he gets most that gives most. – George Swinnock



## Moderator's Christmas Card Drawing Challenge

It's been a few years since we last held our challenge to find a design for the Moderator's Christmas Card.

This year the challenge is open to **EVERYONE** within the Synod.

Are you up for the challenge?

Find out more by visiting [Moderator's Christmas Challenge post](#).

## The URC@ Greenbelt 26 -29 August

The URC theme for Greenbelt 2022 is **Revoltng Christians!**

Ever thought of venturing out as a church group to Greenbelt? It's an excellent way to engage with faith, arts, music and activism as well as deepening in fellowship together. Boughton House near Kettering is a delightful setting. There is something for everyone and all ages at Greenbelt, whether you have not even started your faith journey yet or have been 'walking the way' for many years.

Flier: <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Greenbelt-Flyer-2022.pdf>

For more information: <https://urc.org.uk/urc-at-greenbelt-festival/>

## The URCs 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

### Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration

If you asked for a seat or two to be reserved for the October 1 service, you should now have received an email from Eventbrite with your ticket/s.

Please keep these safe as the codes will be needed to gain entry to the venue. You can bring a print out of the PDF or show them on your phone. You can also visit the Eventbrite website to amend the number of tickets required or cancel them if needed.

More than 600 tickets have been reserved and so if you have yet to reserve any, please do so soon:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/50th-anniversary-service-of-thanksgiving-and-celebration-free-event-tickets-163843796205>

Please encourage others to book the free tickets as well. URC at 50: Worship Resources - All the details can be found at: <https://urc.org.uk/who-we-are/our-50th-anniversary/> (scroll past the videos).

### Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar July & August

July	3	<b>The URC Meeting of General Assembly</b> Brill; Cornerstone, Hythe
	10	Abingdon: Trinity Church; Maidenhead
	17	United Church Faringdon; Lymington; Basingstoke: London Street
	24	Christ Church, Henley-on-Thames; Southampton: Bitterne Park
	31	Oxford: Blackbird Leys; Three Legged Cross; Guernsey
August	7	Bell Street United Church, Shaftesbury; Reading: Lower Earley
	14	Windsor; Havant and Emsworth
	21	Thatcham; Poole: Skinner Street; Gosport St Columba
	28	Reading: St Andrew's; Guildford: Normandy; Wimborne

### Solutions

**ACROSS:** 1, Wife. 3, To battle. 8, Obal. 9, Disciple. 11, Bitterness. 14, Niacin. 15, Attain. 17, Passionate. 20, Tertiary. 21, Meet. 22, Weakness. 23, Deer.

**DOWN:** 1, Woodbine. 2, Feast day. 4, Orient. 5, Accusation. 6, Type. 7, Eyes. 10, Dedication. 12, Gadarene. 13, Ancestor. 16, Esdras. 18, Stew. 19, Area.

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

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



## Lectionary Bible Readings for July/ August

July 3	2 Kings 5:1-14 and Psalm 30; Isaiah 66:10-14 and Psalm 66:1-9; Galatians 6:(1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
July 10	Amos 7:7-17 and Psalm 82 Deuteronomy 30:9-14 and Psalm 25:1-10 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37
July 17	Amos 8:1-12 and Psalm 52 Genesis 18:1-10a and Psalm 15 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42
July 24	Hosea 1:2-10 and Psalm 85; Genesis 18:20-32 and Psalm 138; Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19); Luke 11:1-13
July 31	Hosea 11:1-11 and Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 and Psalm 49:1-12 ;Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
August 7	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 and Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Genesis 15:1-6 and Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
14	Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 ; Jeremiah 23:23-29 and Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
21	Jeremiah 1:4-10 and Psalm 71:1-6; Isaiah 58:9b-14 and Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17
28	Jeremiah 2:4-13 and Psalm 81:1; 10-16 Proverbs 25:6-7 and Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14

### **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 **September** Messenger is **Saturday 14 August**. Please send articles to Messenger Editor, Carolyn Barton, tel 01730 265884 e-mail carolynbarton.barton6@gmail.com

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Church & Community Worker	Mrs Jo Hopkins 01730 266475 <a href="mailto:communityworker@petersfieldurc.com">communityworker@petersfieldurc.com</a>	
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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”*