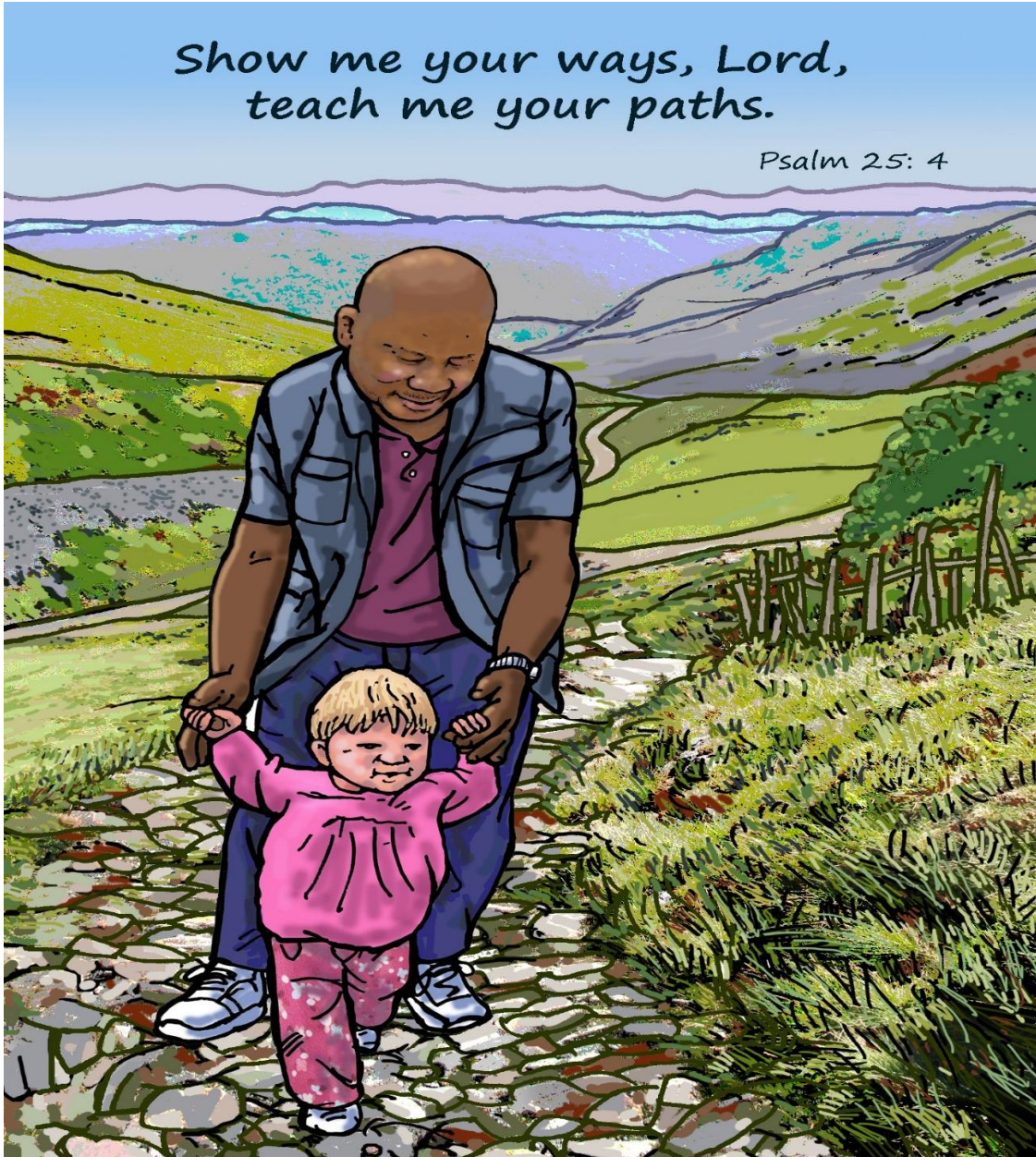


THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

*Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.*

Psalm 25: 4



PETERSFIELD AND LISS
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

May 2026
No. 747

From the Minister ..

Choosing Compassion in a Contentious Time



As our community approaches the upcoming local elections, many of us are feeling the weight of a world that seems increasingly tense, divided, and at times, unkind. Public conversations can quickly become heated, and it is easy to feel that we are being pulled into sides rather than drawn toward understanding.

As a church, we are not called to withdraw from the world, nor to mirror its hostility. Instead, we are invited into something deeper: a way of engaging that reflects the heart of Christ—truthful, attentive, and above all, compassionate.

Compassion does not mean avoiding difficult issues or pretending differences do not exist. Elections matter because real lives are affected by the decisions made. Housing, education, care for the vulnerable, stewardship of resources—these are not abstract topics, but concerns that touch our neighbours and ourselves. It is right that we think carefully and take our responsibilities seriously.

At the same time, compassion asks more of us than simply choosing a position. It asks how we hold that position.

Are we listening as well as speaking?

Are we seeking to understand, not just to win?

Are we remembering that every person we encounter—whether we agree with them or not—is made in the image of God?

In a climate where it can feel easier to dismiss or label others, the Church has an opportunity to offer something different.

We can be people who refuse to reduce others to their opinions. We can be people who remain gentle even when conversations become sharp. We can be people who care not only about outcomes, but about one another.

This also means recognising the complexity of the moment we are in. There are no perfect candidates or flawless policies. Each choice involves trade-offs, and faithful Christians may come to different conclusions. Unity, therefore, does not come from uniformity in voting, but from a shared commitment to love one another well.

As you consider how you will vote, you might ask:

- How does this choice reflect care for the most vulnerable in our community?
- Does this align with a spirit of justice, mercy, and humility?
- Am I being shaped more by fear and frustration, or by hope and compassion?

These are not easy questions, but they are important ones.

Let us also remember that our witness extends beyond the ballot box. The tone of our conversations, the way we speak about others, and the grace we show in disagreement all speak loudly about who we are and whose we are.

In a world that often feels harsher, even small acts of kindness and understanding can be powerful. A patient conversation, a willingness to listen, a refusal to caricature someone we disagree with—these are not signs of weakness, but of strength rooted in love.

As election day approaches, may we be people who engage thoughtfully, speak graciously, and act compassionately. And whatever the outcome, may we continue to seek the peace and wellbeing of our community together.

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

Your Brother in Christ

Josh



**Easter
Celebrations**



Message from our Church and Community Worker...



Our Intergenerational prayer walk, back at the end of March, went very well. With over 20 joining me around the pond. We had a scavenger hunt for the young at heart. The readings hung around the paths, for people to ponder over. Twig crosses were made and hung in the bushes with our private prayers at the end.

Our next walk will be a nature walk on Sunday 14th June at 2pm, again at the pond, joining us will be The Petersfield Ranger. So do come along.

Easter Craft morning

We had over 40 children and the parents joined us, just before Easter, to make craft. Learned about the true meaning of the session and finished up with a mad Easter egg hunt.



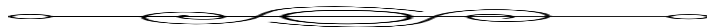
April, quieted down after Easter Sunday for me. And as always makes me reflect on the Easter season. A few things mull over in my head. Had I grown in my faith over the last few months, or had I spent enough time I wanted and needed to be with God? And if I'm honest, the answer is yes and no. In Lent I had the time to focus on God to be still and marvel over the planning of the Old to New Testament, of God's plan to bring himself, his son to us. And the sacrifice he willingly took, to take our sin. knowing we would always be broken and incapable of doing the right thing. Jesus took our stones of sin and bore it all.

How horrendous it must have been. To be without God for that time. The Temple curtains torn and it was done. And on the third day Jesus rose again. His resurrection a sign of all sin and death defeated, for those who believe in him. So why do we worry so much, especially about the things we can't change? I know I'm a worrier; Gary says I'm not happy unless I have something to worry about. I suppose we want/ need to be in control of our lives what and when we do things. So this year have I learnt to hand it to God?

Well, yes, the big things or other people's worries and prayers. But with the day-to-day little thing maybe not so much. So, I'm a work in progress, like most of us. But as Christians we do know God will never forsake us or leave us. We are so lucky we can be made new every day through faith. We are at the start of something big. So whatever God says to you, don't worry he has a plan for each of us. Be bold step out in faith and enjoy all that God has planned for you.

Ps- and try not to worry. God's got it covered.

Love Jo xx



Loaves, fishes and finances!

Would you be willing to lend a hand in supporting the financial life of our church? We are seeking one or more volunteers to assist the Treasurer with the general financial operations of our URC church.

While experience in finance would be helpful, it is by no means essential. The role includes supporting budgeting, maintaining records, assisting with banking and online accounts, and helping to provide regular updates to the Finance & General Purposes team.

This is a valuable opportunity to serve, and all church members are warmly invited to consider getting involved. If you can spare a few hours each month and feel able to contribute, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Mike Henrie (mikeph@btinternet.com) or Esme (churchcentremanager@petersfieldurc.com) for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Mike (F&GP chair)

‘Thy Kingdom Come’ – global prayer movement marks ten years

This year the global prayer movement *Thy Kingdom Come* (TKC) will take place from Thursday 14th to Sunday 24th May.

Spanning the 11 days between Ascension and Pentecost, the initiative encourages Christians to pray for five people whom they know (friends, families, neighbours) to come to faith.

This year is a special one for *Thy Kingdom Come*. It was ten years ago, in 2016, that it began as a call to prayer from the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York.

TKC has since grown into a global wave of prayer, involving tens of millions of Christians, in dozens of denominations, in almost 90% countries worldwide.

To mark these first ten years, the new archbishop, Sarah Mullally, has written a Novena for the initiative.

This year’s theme is ‘God With Us’. With the help of leaders from across the church traditions, TKC will explore a different Bible story each day, one which demonstrates God’s transformative presence, power and love at work in the lives of people and communities.

More information at: <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Ascension Day Service

There will be a service at St Mary’s Buriton on Thursday 14th May at 6pm to celebrate Ascension Day. All welcome.



PETERSFIELD AND LISS
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



Plant Sale

9th May 10am to 12.00 noon.

at Petersfield URC, College street.

shrubs, perennials and annuals,

And refreshments available.



Community Matters

FREE DEBT & BENEFIT ADVICE

Are you struggling with your finances?

You don't have to be alone.

"After a horrible experience in my life, I now don't know what to do."

Drop-In

Every Wednesday : 10.30 – 12.30
No appointment necessary

- Repossessions
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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 \(pactfoodbank.org.uk\)](http://pactfoodbank.org.uk)



Open every Wednesday from 2pm till 3.30pm at St Mary's. You can meet us, enjoy a cuppa and take away your food bags. Delivery can be arranged for those on foot. Can't get to St. Mary's? Then a

Wednesday delivery can be arranged if a request is made by lunchtime on Monday. Ring 01730 00659/300921 or text 07570792525

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

Please continue to drop off donations in St. Mary's Rectory porch, 111 Station Road, or bring donations to St. Mary'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: Tuesday 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm

Wednesday 1.30 pm – 3 pm

Friday & Saturday 10 am – 11.30 am

For more information contact: easthampshirerail.co.uk/freeshop-shop

Pentecost

The celebration of Pentecost this month could be described as a birthday party for the church, when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first disciples (Acts 2:1-13). What are we celebrating?



God's Promise:

The disciples obeyed Jesus' instructions as they gathered in the Upper Room: *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised'* (1:4). They met expectantly in prayer for God's promised gift. Just as we look forward to birthday presents, how eager are we to receive more of the Spirit in our lives?

God's Power:

'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit' (4). The disciples needed the power of the Spirit to be different: not fearfully gathered behind locked doors, but energised to make Christ known. The Spirit can transform our lives into the likeness of Jesus and give gifts to equip our witness. Although the disciples' experience of this power was overwhelming, it was essentially an encounter with God's love. For us, this can be equally emotional or quiet, but *all* are included and nobody is excluded from this experience.

God's Purpose:

The disciples *'began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'* (4). The Spirit empowered their witness, so that everyone heard them speaking in their own *'native language'* (lit: *dialect*, v8). We all have a story to tell of God's activity in our lives, and the Spirit will translate our words and actions into a language that those around can understand! At Pentecost, 3000 people were added to the Church in one day! What do we expect of the Spirit in our day?

'Let the church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him' (Andrew Murray).

**Petersfield and Liss United Reformed Church
Update on regular weekday activities**



Please note the following updates.

- **Drop in Tea** – Drop-In Tea for May will be on the 12th. 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 – May 2026

Date	Duty Elders	AV
May 3	Anne Glenn	David Darling
May 10	Carol Tubbs	Keith Evans
May 17	Mary Fair & Anne Glenn	Jonathan Oru
May 24	Tim Abbott	Carolyn Barton
May 31	Wendy Holdsworth	Roy Knight

Welcomers' Rota

Date	Welcomers
May 3	Carol Tubbs
May 10	Kay Pennicotte-Henrie
May 17	Sue Bone
May 24	Di Lugger
May 31	Roy Knight

- 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.

May 2026 Petersfield and Liss Church Calendar -

Please note Services are held at College Street, Petersfield.

Sunday	3	10.30 am	Mary Fair	
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	84 Moggs Mead
		7pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
Friday	8	10.30 am	Friday Fellowship	CFC
Sunday	10	10.30 am	Minister	
Monday	11	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
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
Sunday	17	10.30 am	Minister - Communion	
Monday	18	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
Tuesday	19	9.30 pm	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
Thursday	21	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2.30 pm	Home Group	84 Moggs Mead
		7 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
		8 pm	Home Group	12 Geddes Way
Sunday	24	10.30 am	Pentecost- Minister – Café Church	
Tuesday	26	7.30 pm	Church Meeting AGM	Sanctuary
Thursday	28	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2-4 pm	Games Afternoon	CFC

St Laurence Church, Upwey



If after Church you wait awhile,
Someone may greet you with a smile.

But, if you quickly rise and flee,
We'll all seem cold and stiff, maybe

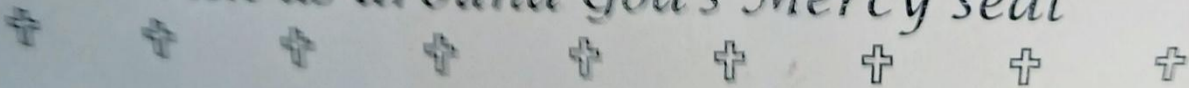
The one beside you in the pew

Is, perhaps a stranger too.

And here, like you have fears and cares.

In fellowship we bid you meet,

With us around God's Mercy seat



With thanks to Di Luggar



Smile Lines

When technology goes wrong

The father of a family - who was a big-time techie - got his oldest daughter an iPhone for her birthday. He also got an iPad for his son. Later he bought an iPod for the youngest daughter. Then, when his wedding anniversary rolled around, he got his wife an iRon. That's when things went wrong.

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
CHRISTIAN
PARTNERSHIP

UKRAINE MISSION UPDATE

Thank you very much indeed for your continuing support of Ukraine Christian Partnership (UCP). We are most grateful for all your ongoing donations and prayers. Thank you, Connie's handicraft group, for your very kind donation of £110. Thank you also to those who went to St Peter's Holy Week service led by the Free Radicals singing group. The retiring collection raised over £440 (with gift aid) for UCP which is a most welcome addition to our funds.

Last month, we mentioned the weekly top-up food parcels which UCP funds for those in need in Kherson. We co-ordinate this work through a wonderful man, Yury. Yury was recently called up to the army. Due to his age he has not been sent to the front line (at least not for the time being), but in his first three weeks his place has been bombed and he caught Covid. At time of writing he is well again, full of his usual optimism and, thanks to the wonder of the internet, he is able to carry on with his co-ordination of the food parcel work. We thank God for this situation and pray for Yury's continued safety, health and well-being.

As well as food parcels, we are also helping folk grow more of their own food. In Transcarpathia, we are again funding a seed project for villagers in Akli, Ujakli, Aklihegy and Gyula. This has been very successful in recent years and we pray for another good harvest. In Kherson city, the opportunity to grow food is more limited, but elderly residents have been enjoying planting and tending new UCP-funded fruit trees.

Life in Kherson city, including nearby villages such as Chornobaivka, where Pastor Sergey's church is, continues to be tough and dangerous. Russian drones continue to hunt out civilians. One of the volunteer groups UCP provided protective equipment with had a very narrow escape on 15 April

. A drone dropped its explosive device just missing their patient transport vehicle but blowing out all its windows and causing other damage. Thank the Lord nobody was seriously injured. We pray for the continued protection of Pastor Sergey, his church and all those who serve others in the Kherson area. And we continue to pray for peace.

David Darling, [Ukraine Christian Partnership](#)



Patient transport vehicle before and after Russian drone attack



Planting fruit trees (and vegetables)

7 days to make a difference

Join us this Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

Together, we can
beat extreme poverty.



christian
aid

Sign up at caid.org.uk/Give or scan this QR code:



#7DaysToMakeADifference

Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Awards, Eng and Wales (Entry no. 110889). Such awards are 5000000. Company no. 317150.
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Trinity Sunday, celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space, and unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, which gives us life and illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are *of* the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4: 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'

Isaiah 45:22: 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other.'

Genesis 1:1-2: 'In the beginning God created.... and the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6: 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3: 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells His disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we turn to its brilliant light, we find that warmth and life are there as well.



Peaceful mind in the month of Pentecost

John 14:15-18

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

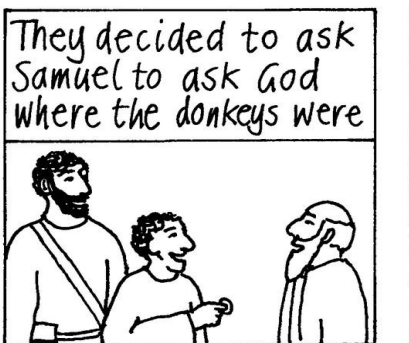
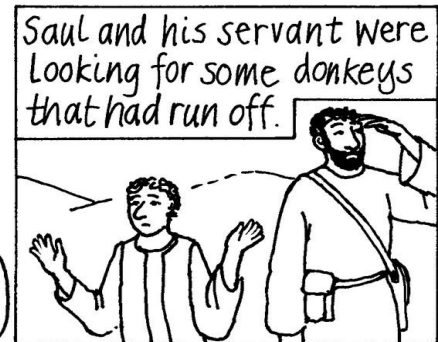
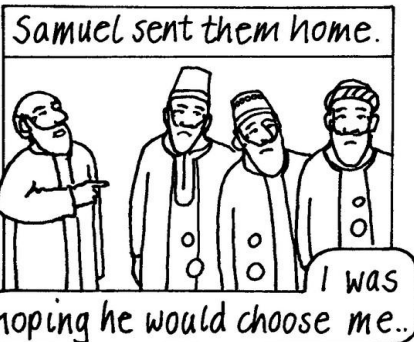
For our younger readers ...

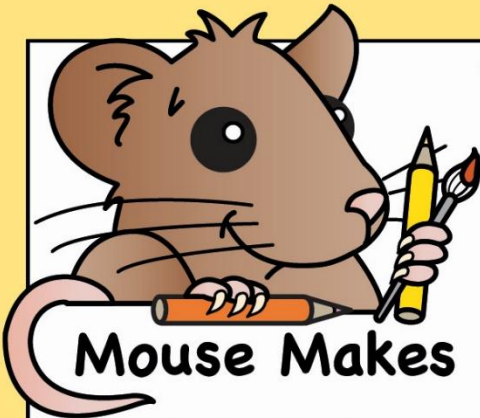
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Samuel 8:1-10:1, 17-24

Samuel had been a good leader of Israel
but he was now old. The leaders of the
twelve tribes came to talk to him...





Mouse Makes

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Spirit of

_____ *Genesis 1:2*

The

_____ of the Father.
Acts 1:4

The Spirit of

A _____ *Romans 8:15*

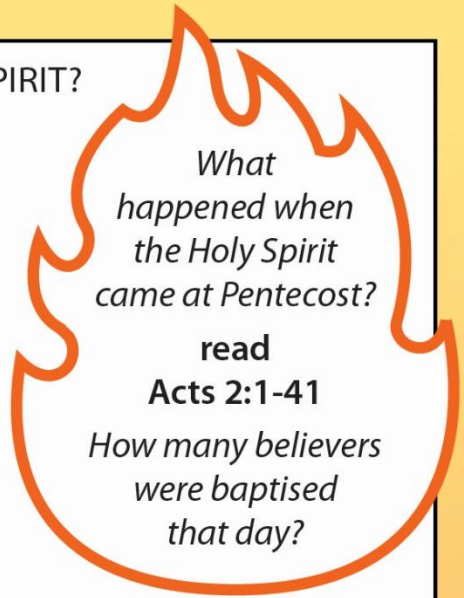
H _____ *John 14:26*

The Spirit of _____ *John 16:13*

The Spirit of _____ *Acts 16:7*

The Fruit of the Spirit
Galatians 5:22-23

___ O ___
___ Y ___
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___ T ___
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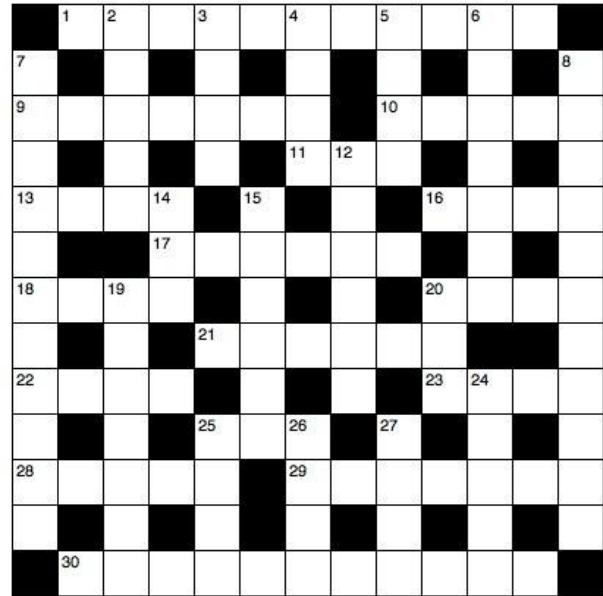


D G C O M F O R T E R L C
K E O N P P E A C E G O D
I N U F A K J D H J R R F
N T N A T L O V E O A D H
D L S I I O H O L Y C D L
N E E T E A I C P L E E G
E N L H N D E A E D E B L
S E L F C O N T R O L J O
S N O P E P T E A C H E R
J S R J O T R U T H F S Y
R S P I R I T I L U I U K
K P P R O M I S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

Look up the Bible verses and fill in the missing words. Look for them in the word search then look for these words below.

HOLY • SPIRIT • COUNSELLOR • COMFORTER
ADVOCATE • TEACHER • LORD • PROMISE
GLORY • GRACE • FAITH • DOVE • FIRE • WIND

Crossword



Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought— and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to— his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has (anag.) (3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, —sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for— and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — He will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)

- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
- 8 'Therefore, as we have —, let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
- 12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)
- 14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)
- 15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on— —!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
- 19 Refrain (1 Peter2:11) (7)
- 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)
- 24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)
- 25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke6:30) (4)
- 26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
- 27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)



With the council elections in mind

There are two sides to every question, and a politician usually takes both. - *Anon*

A politician doesn't stand on his record; he jumps on the other fellow's. - *Anon*

It's a good thing that politicians are generally paid by the year. They would starve to death on piecework. - *Anon*

The trick in campaigning is to give them platitudes without fear or favour and straight-from-the shoulder generalities. - *Anon*

A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman of the next generation. - *Anon*

Sudoku

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

Easy

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

Medium



Seize the day

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

Short-staffed

Two men were working for the town council. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole in. They worked up one side of the street, then down the other, then moved on to the next street, working furiously all day without rest, one man digging a hole, the other filling it in again.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work, but couldn't understand what they were doing. So, he finally approached the hole digger, "I'm impressed by the effort you two are putting into your work, but I don't get it - why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?"

The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed, "Well, I suppose it probably looks odd because we're normally a three-person team. But today the guy who plants the trees called in sick."

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



From the Wessex Trust

We are delighted to announce that Dr Chi Jack-Osimiri joined the Wessex staff team on 7th April, in the role of Company Secretary and Deputy Treasurer. This will be initially a part-time (80%) position, and Chi's normal working days will be Monday to Thursday.

Chi has expertise in company and charity governance, as well as experience of audit management and a strong strategic understanding. She will be taking over the governance of the Trust from Stuart MacLean and supporting the Synod Treasurer, David North, across a range of national and local church engagements, including assuming responsibility for the annual Ministry and Mission Fund cycle.

We are sure you will do everything you can to make Chi feel at home in Wessex and support her, especially during her initial induction.

Diary dates 2026

Secretaries' Networking zoom – Saturday 16 May 2026, 10am – 11.30am.

Treasurers' Networking zoom – Saturday 27 June 2026, 10am – 11.30am.

Elders' conference – Saturday 25 July 2026 at Sarum College.

Diary dates 2027 – new Save the Date!

Lay Preachers' Gathering – at Sarum College on Saturday 23 January 2027.

Elders' conference – at Sarum College on Saturday 24 April 2027.

Wessex Summer Camps 2026

Children's Camp: 26 – 29 May 2026 – bookings now open

<https://www.urcwessex.org.uk/wsc26/>

Youth Camp: 10 – 13 July 2026

[Further information on the synod website.](#)

Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar May 2026

May	3	Jersey; Brill United Church
	10	Beacon Hill, Hindhead; Braishfield, nr Romsey
	17	Trinity Church, Lower Earley, Reading; Broad Chalke, nr Salisbury
	24	St Andrew's, Reading; Wessex Synod Children's Camp (link); Broadstone
	31	Buckland, Portsmouth; Caversham Park

May Eco Prayer

from Ruth Burgess, Eco Congregation Scotland

Loving God,
 Maker of sea and earth and sky,
 You made people to live in your world.
 You ask us to find ways to work with you,
 to make the earth a place where nobody need be
 hungry,
 and people are kind to each other.
 Thank you for Jesus
 who shows us how to be loving
 and for your Spirit
 who keeps us right.
 Amen.



Lectionary Bible Readings for May 2026



May 3	Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 14:1-14
May 10	Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21
May 17	Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 or Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53
May 24	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b. 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39
May 31	1 Samuel 2:1-10; Psalm 113; Romans 12:9-16b; Luke 1:39-57

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 **June Messenger** is May 17th. Please send articles to Messenger Editor, Carolyn Barton, tel 01730 265884 e-mail carolynbarton.barton6@gmail.com

Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.

DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

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

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

Church Contact Details

Church	Petersfield: College Street, Petersfield GU31 4AG 01730 266475
Minister	Rev Joshua Thomas Tel 07734 254983 minister@petersfieldurc.com
Church Office	Church Centre Manager Mrs Esme Kelly Office Hours 9am-12noon Mondays to Thursdays
Church & Community Worker	Mrs Jo Hopkins 01730 266475 communityworker@petersfieldurc.com
Telephone	Church Family Centre 01730 266475
Website	<u>www.petersfieldurc.com</u>
E-mail	churchcentremanager@petersfieldurc.com
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”