

# THE MESSENGER

THE MAGAZINE OF PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH



PETERSFIELD AND LISS  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**June 2026 No. 748**

## **From the Minister ..**

As summer begins and our churches look ahead to a new season of ministry, there is a real sense of excitement and thanksgiving across our synod. The changing season reminds us that God is always at work bringing renewal, growth, and fresh opportunities for service. This year, we are especially delighted to celebrate two important inductions taking place within our area, each marking the beginning of a new chapter in ministry and mission.



At Cornerstone in Hythe and Immanuel URC - Southbourne, there will be a growing excitement as they prepare to warmly welcome Rev'd Joshua Norris as he begins his ministry in that part of the world. Many remember Joshua as the son of our previous minister – Peter, and I know that Peter and Lynn are so excited for him and his family to be that little bit closer again! Joshua brings both experience from his current role in Essex and a fresh vision for his new role in the New Forest, and we pray that he will quickly feel at home as he leads and serves these congregations in the years ahead.

We also celebrate the induction of Rev'd Tim Searle into the newly established Solent Cluster, serving Hayling Island, Havant, Portsmouth, Fareham and Gosport! For me personally, this appointment carries special joy, as Tim was my mentor during my early years in ministry. His wisdom, encouragement, and thoughtful guidance helped shape my own ministry in several ways. There is also something wonderfully fitting about Tim now serving in the church where I grew up on Hayling Island — a place filled with memories of worship, fellowship, youth groups, and the beginnings of faith for so many people.

The creation of the Solent Cluster itself reflects an exciting and hopeful vision for churches working together more closely in shared mission and ministry. In a changing world, collaboration and mutual support between congregations are increasingly important, and we pray that this new partnership will bear much fruit.

These inductions are encouraging reminders that the Church continues to move forward with hope and expectation. As summer begins, we give thanks for all that God has done and look forward with anticipation to all that lies ahead. Please do keep Joshua, Tim, and the congregations they now serve in your prayers, asking that God would bless them with wisdom, compassion, energy, and joy as they begin these new ministries.

Every blessing,

Your brother in Christ,

Josh.



### **Be the Power of All Things Within us**

O God the Holy Ghost who art Light unto Thine elect,  
Evermore enlighten us.

Thou who art Fire of Love,  
Evermore enkindle us.

Thou who art Lord and Giver of life,  
Evermore live in us.

Thou who bestowest sevenfold grace,  
Evermore replenish us.

*By Christina Rossetti (1830-94)*

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



May was a blooming success with our 2<sup>nd</sup> plant sale. We raised £ 908.60. A big thank you to Adrian and Carol for the plants and their knowledge, all who made the cakes and cookies, and the team in the kitchen for keeping everyone feed and watered.



**Our next fund raiser is on 19<sup>th</sup> September in the afternoon, with Andy Tubbs doing a talk about art and sale, with a cream tea, do put it in your diaries.**

Another date for all their who like a short walk. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June is our 2<sup>nd</sup> outside worship walk with Petersfield Ranger Jacob Gibson. Meeting at 2pm in the far carpark on the Heath, entrance on Sussex Road. All are welcome to come and learn a little more about the Heath's habitat.



I would like to thank all who supported Jo Oru and Clare Hopkins in the Race for life, against cancer. The girls run it in just over 40mins. Well done.....

Love Jo x

## **Celebrating Fathers**

*'If you want to know how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much they make of the thought of being God's child and having God as their Father.'* (J I Packer, *Knowing God*)

This month we celebrate the importance of fathers on Father's Day. Unlike Mothering Sunday, this doesn't have a distinctly Christian origin. However, it does provide an opportunity to celebrate God's Fatherhood and what it means for us.

At His baptism, when Jesus came out of the water: *'heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.'* (Matthew 3:16,17). What do we learn about Jesus' relationship with His Father, our relationship with God and the role of fathers?

### ***The Father's presence***

When Jesus was baptised, the Father was present in the Holy Spirit. It's the Spirit who enables us to address God as daddy (*'abba'*, Galatians 4:6) in an intimate way. God is present with us and understands our joys and sorrows, fears and trials. Dads should relate to their children like this.

### ***The Father's love***

The Father described His Son as *'beloved'*; like us, Jesus was the subject of God's unconditional love. Dads should assure their children of their constant, undeserved love.

### ***The Father's pleasure***

The Father tells Jesus that He is *'well pleased'* with Him, as He embarked on His public ministry. We need to hear this as well, especially when we feel that we are disappointing God or letting Him down. We should also be aware of the effect of our words spoken to our children. Dads should be using every opportunity to demonstrate their pleasure in their children, especially when things go wrong.

# 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
- Welfare Benefits
- Benefit Appeals

**Frontline**  
Debt Advice  
Petersfield

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  
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🌐 [www.frontlinepetersfield.org.uk](http://www.frontlinepetersfield.org.uk)

c/o Life Church Centre,  
1 London House,  
Chapel Street,  
Petersfield.  
GU32 3DR



## 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](http://easthampshirerail.co.uk/freeshop-shop)

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



Please note the following updates.

- **Drop in Tea** – Drop-In Tea for June will be on the 9<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity for anyone to come to the CFC for a chat and a cuppa and even some cake! Call in any time between 2 and 4pm. Come when you can - go when you must! We look forward to seeing you then.

Julie, Keith and Mary



**Rotas – June 2026**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Duty Elders</b>	<b>AV</b>
June 7	Isaac Oru	David Darling
June 14	Anne Glenn	Keith Evans
June 21	David Barton & Julie West	Jonathan Oru
June 28	Tony Phillips	Roy Knight

**Welcomers' Rota**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Welcomers</b>
June 7	Elizabeth Phillips
June 14	David Barton
June 21	Tony Phillips
June 28	Pat Berry

- 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.

**June 2026 Petersfield and Liss Church Calendar -****Please note Services are held at College Street, Petersfield.**

Monday	1	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
Tuesday	2	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting	CFC
Thursday	4	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
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Esme Kelly</b>	
Monday	8	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
Tuesday	9	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
		2-4 pm	Drop-in Tea	CFC
		7.30 pm	Women's Fellowship	CFC
Thursday	11	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
Friday	12	10.30 am	Friday Fellowship	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister</b>	
		<b>2 pm</b>	<b>Heath Walk</b>	<b>Sussex Road Carpark</b>
Monday	15	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
Tuesday	16	9.30 pm	Little Fishes	CFC
		2 pm	Connie's Handicraft Group	CFC
Thursday	18	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		2.30 pm	Home Group	84 Moggs Mead
		7 pm	Home Group	Buckmore Farmhouse
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister - Communion</b>	
Monday	22	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
		2 pm	Monday Meditations	Sanctuary
Tuesday	23	9.30 am	Little Fishes	CFC
Thursday	25	10 am	Prayer Meeting	Sanctuary
		<b>2-4 pm</b>	<b>Games Afternoon</b>	<b>CFC</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Minister - Café Church</b>	

## Petersfield & Liss Church Calendar –(Continued)

Monday	29	1 pm	Ladies' Bible Studies	Sanctuary
Tuesday	30	9.30 am	Little Fishes	<b>CFC</b>



*Here is a peaceful prayer for anyone leading a too-busy, stressed-out life.*

### **God, the Port of Peace**

Now come all, you who have been brought  
 In bondage full of busy bitterness,  
 Earthly desire abiding in your thought!  
 Here is the rest from all your busyness,  
 Here is the port of peace and restfulness  
 To those who stand in storms and in dis-ease,  
 Open refuge to wretches in distress,  
 And all comfort from trouble and mis-ease.

*Adopted from John Walton, about 1410*

### **A new creature**

Once I felt I was melting under the heat of anguish.  
 Once all hope of happiness had left me.  
 Now I melt under the heat of Your warm joy,  
 And my present bliss excludes even the memory of past misery.

I am a new creature, Lord, reborn in You.  
 Your grace rises up and rushes through my veins.  
 You re-fashion my heart, as a sculptor fashions a statue,  
 Shaping it in the perfect image of love.

*Jacopone da Todi (c 1230 – 1306) was a Franciscan lay brother, briefly imprisoned by the Pope for his opposition to the papal corruption of the time. This is from his prayer 'Ecstasy through Christ'.*

# Mission News

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



## UKRAINE MISSION UPDATE

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of Ukraine Christian Partnership (UCP). For all the donations and prayers, we are very grateful – as are Pastor Sergey (in Chornobaivka, Kherson), Pastor Istvan (in Akli) and Pastor Zoltan (in Gyula), as well as all the individuals who receive help. This month we would like to pass on some of those words of thanks, from people whose houses have recently been repaired through the UCP-funded house rebuilding work that Pastor Sergey and his team run.

Serhii's house was damaged after Russian shelling. The roof could not withstand the impact - holes appeared, and every time there was rain or wind, it only made the situation worse. It became dangerous to live in such a house. Today, thanks to the team and your donations, Serhii has a roof over his head — and this means much more to him than just repairs: *"I didn't know what to do anymore... But God sent people. Thank you for this help."*

Tetyana's house looked like a ruin after shelling. The blast wave tore off the roof completely and the wooden support structure of the roof was destroyed. From inside there was an open space under the sky. The rafters, the most complex part of the roof, were restored. After that, the house was covered with a special tarpaulin to at least temporarily protect it from rain and cold. For Tetyana, it became a real salvation: *"I stood and looked at the sky through my house... I thought that nothing would happen. But you came - and I have a hope."*

Mykola's house was seriously damaged after shelling. The roof was like a sieve, windows were shattered, as well as much interior damage. It was not just one renovation - it was the restoration of an entire living space. He asked the church for help when he realised that he couldn't do it on his own. The church team restored the roof, replaced damaged elements, repaired windows, doors and the attic. Although some windows remain boarded up due to practical issues, today his house is liveable again. *"I am very grateful. You've done more than just repair, you've given me back my faith that I'm not alone."*

Regular readers may remember that last year Pastor Sergey's Baptist team helped repair the Orthodox Church's roof with the help of UCP funding. A wonderful example of churches working together. Sadly, the Orthodox Church was hit again, but this time much more severely. Thank the Lord, Vasyl the priest did not spend that night at home (which is adjacent to the church) as he was away on a visit. A rocket hit his house and the bedroom where he sleeps. Half his house was destroyed. Again, the repair team came to the rescue and supported the priest as much as they could, but it is very difficult to watch when the enemy destroys God's property.

We pray for the continued protection of Pastor Sergey, his church and community, and indeed all those who serve in the Kherson area. We continue to pray for peace.

David Darling, [Ukraine Christian Partnership](#)



## **Quotes for June**

We trust not because 'a god' exists, but because THIS God exists. - *C S Lewis*

God's gifts put man's best dreams to shame. - *Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

God loves His children as well in adversity as in prosperity. - *T Watson*

## UKRAINE MISSION UPDATE



Orthodox Church – roof covered and window boarded up to stop the elements getting in, but the priest's house (left) is badly damaged



Orthodox Church – roof repair team at work

## 4<sup>th</sup> June - St Petroc, the founder of Padstow

If you would like to be in Cornwall this summer in search of peace and quiet, Petroc is the saint for you. Especially if you ever find Padstow a bit too crowded for your liking! He would have sympathised.



This 6<sup>th</sup> century abbot is Cornwall's most famous saint. Petroc set sail from South Wales, landed at Haylemouth, and founded a monastery at Lanwethinoc – now called Padstow, after him (Petroc's Stow).

Padstow must have been popular even in those days, because about 30 years later Petroc, in search of some peace and quiet, moved on to build another monastery at Little Petherick (Nanceventon). Here he must have decided to try some 6<sup>th</sup> century equivalent of 'Fresh Expressions', because he engaged with his local community by building a mill and a chapel.

In time, Petroc began feeling crowded again. So, he tramped off to the remote wilds of Bodmin Moor, where he lived as a hermit – until some 12 monks turned up to join him. Firmly, Petroc kept them all housed in a monastery on a hilltop, while he enjoyed his private space in a cell by the river.

But even here Petroc was not alone. One day a terrified stag came rushing through the woods, pursued by the hunt. Petroc flung open the door of his cell, and the panting animal took refuge. When the huntsmen arrived on the scene, they did not dare to argue with the famous holy man, and instead went their way. The stag's gratitude made him tame, and Petroc would come to be portrayed with a stag as his special emblem.

*( Just because I'm going on holiday near Padstow – Carolyn)*

For our younger readers ...

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 17:1-50

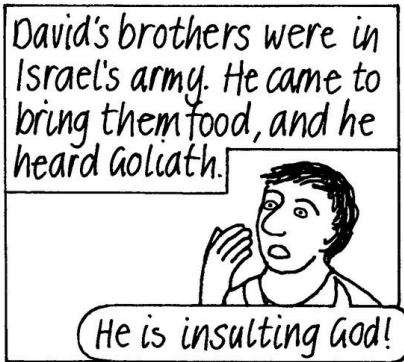
The Philistine and Israelite armies  
faced each other. For 40 days, the gigantic  
Philistine champion, Goliath, taunted them..

I will fight the best soldier in Israel's army and if I win, you will be our slaves



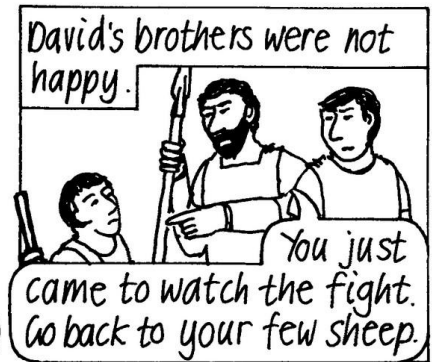
David's brothers were in Israel's army. He came to bring them food, and he heard Goliath.

He is insulting God!



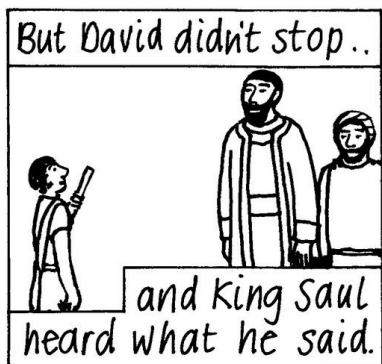
David's brothers were not happy.

You just came to watch the fight. Go back to your few sheep.



But David didn't stop..

and King Saul heard what he said.



We shouldn't be cowards. I will fight him!

You don't stand a chance.



I have killed lions and bears with God's help.

Then go ahead. You can wear my armour.

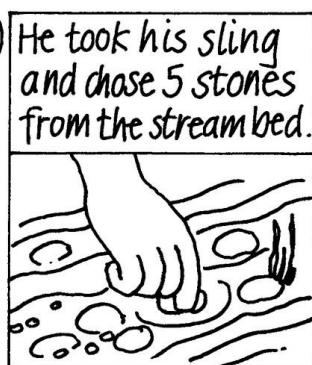


I can't move with all this on!

So David took it off.



He took his sling and chose 5 stones from the stream bed.



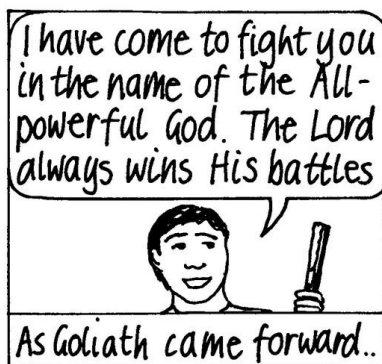
Goliath couldn't believe what he saw.

Do you think I'm a dog that you have come with a stick?



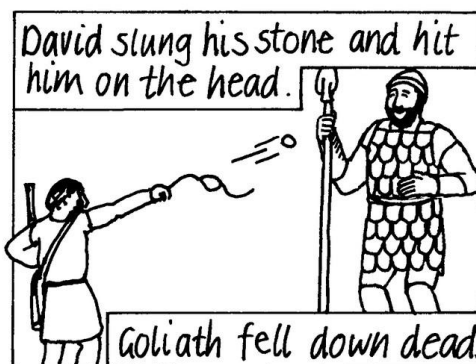
I have come to fight you in the name of the All-powerful God. The Lord always wins His battles

As Goliath came forward..



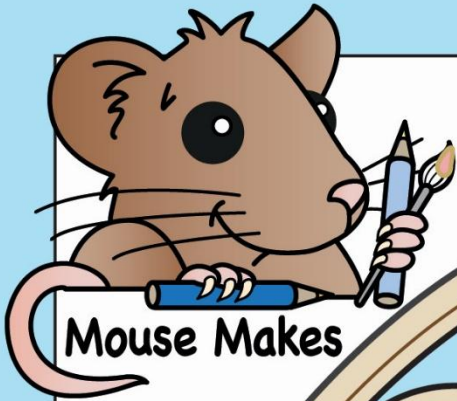
David slung his stone and hit him on the head.

Goliath fell down dead.



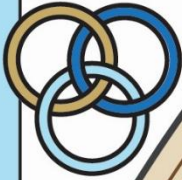
The Philistines ran away, chased by Israel's army.








"May the grace of the Lord  
**JESUS CHRIST** and the  
 love of **GOD** and the  
 fellowship of the  
**HOLY SPIRIT** be  
 with you all."

2 Corinthians  
 13:14



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

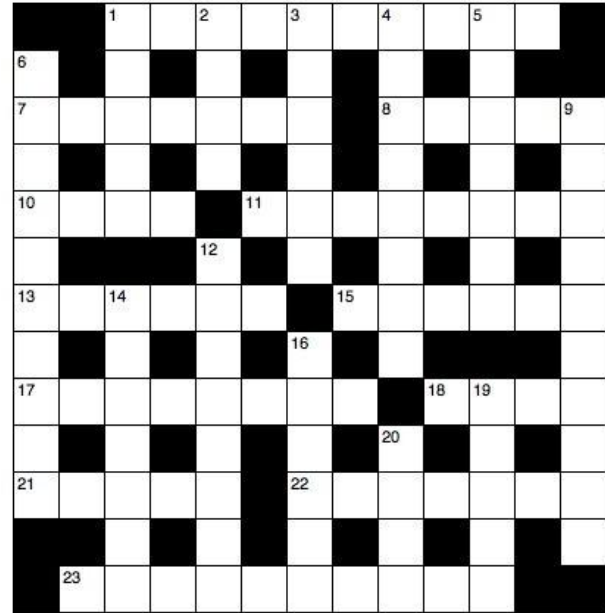
**JESUS • CHRIST**  
 SON • SAVIOUR • LORD  
 EMMANUEL • MESSIAH  
 SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY  
 TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR  
 BREAD • WORD • HEALER  
 VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA

**GOD • FATHER**  
 ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH  
 YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY  
 HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR  
 ETERNAL • CREATOR  
 KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE  
 SHIELD • ROCK • I AM

**HOLY SPIRIT**  
 GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS  
 COMFORTER • GUIDE  
 ADVOCATE • WISDOM  
 POWER • TRUTH • BREATH  
 LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE  
 WIND • FIRE • TEACHER



## Crossword



### Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)  
 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)  
 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)  
 10 'We are hard pressed on every—' (2Corinthians4:8)(4)  
 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)  
 13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)  
 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)  
 17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)  
 18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)  
 21 'As for man,his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)  
 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)  
 23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

### Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)  
 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)  
 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)  
 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)  
 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)  
 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)  
 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10) 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)  
 14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)  
 16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)  
 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)  
 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)

## Sudoku

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

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

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Easy

Medium

### What do they teach them in school these days?!

*The following excerpts are 10- and 11-year-old answers to history tests and Sunday school quizzes. They were collected over a period of three years by two teachers. Read carefully and enjoy the grammar, misplaced modifiers, and of course, spelling!*

Ancient Egypt was old. It was inhabited by gypsies and mummies who all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that all the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.

The Greeks were a highly sculptured people, and without them we wouldn't have history. The Greeks also had myths. A myth is a young female moth.

Socrates was a famous old Greek teacher who went around giving people advice. They killed him. He later died from an overdose of wedlock which is apparently poisonous. After his death, his career suffered a Dramatic decline.

In the first Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled biscuits, and threw the java. The games were messier then than they show on TV now.

It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood.

## Letter from Grandma

The other day I went to a Christian bookshop and saw a 'Honk if you love Jesus' sticker and I put it in my car. I'm so glad I did – what an uplifting experience followed!

I had stopped at a red light at a busy crossing, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good He is, and I didn't notice that the lights had changed. It was a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd have never noticed.



I found that lots of people love Jesus.

While I was sitting there, a man behind me started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of the window and screamed 'For the love of God, go!' What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus, everyone started honking! I just leaned out of my window and started waving and smiling at all these lovely people. I even honked a few times myself to share in the love.

I saw another man waving in a funny way with only two fingers stuck in the air. When I asked my teenage grandson (sitting beside me) what that meant he said it was probably an Hawaiian good luck sign or something.

Well, I've never met anyone from Hawaii, so I gave him the good luck sign back. My grandson burst out laughing, even he was enjoying the religious experience.

A couple of people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started to walk towards me. I bet they wanted to pray with me or ask which church I attended. This was when I noticed that the lights had changed and so .... not wishing to hold anyone up, I gave a cheery smile and waved goodbye to all my newfound brothers and sisters and drove off.

In my mirror I noticed that I was the only car that got across before the lights changed again. I felt very sad that I had to leave them all behind after all the love we had shared so I slowed down, leaned out of the window and gave them the Hawaiian good luck sign as I drove away.

*This article was originally found in the Church Magazine, St Peter's Edinburgh, but discovered in the magazine of St John's, Baildon, West Yorkshire*

**Peter Crane**

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



**\_2026 Synod Meetings – Save the Dates**

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.

**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.

**Family Film Night – latest resource**

**[The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#) explores **How are you growing and changing?****

These exciting resources are 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](#).

## Wessex Synod Prayer Calendar

June	7	Burton Green, Christchurch; Cornerstone, Hythe
	14	Guernsey; Christ Church Henley-on-Thames; Salisbury
	21	Cumnor, Oxford; Christchurch, Chineham, Basingstoke
	28	Pear Tree Green, Southampton; Christ Church, Windsor

### June Eco Prayer

From Eco Congregation Scotland

Holy God, we live on a small speck of green  
and blue

hurtling in the vast array of galaxy, nebula,  
asterisms, quasars:

there are more stars in the known universe  
than grains of sand on our globe,

yet we are each known, loved and strengthened by you.

We don't tremble with fear: we gasp with awe,  
and marvel with joy at our place

in creation's wondrous unfurling story of Eternal Love.

In our humble searching for truth and wisdom,

our understanding falls at the immensity of all you have done:

we rejoice in what we see

and marvel at your creative acts.

Amen





## Lectionary Bible Readings for June 2026

June 7	Genesis 12:1-9 and Psalm 33:1-12; Hosea 5:15-6:6 and Psalm 50:7-15; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
June 14	Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) and Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Exodus 19:2-8a and Psalm 100; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)
June 21	Genesis 21:8-21 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Jeremiah 20:7-13 and Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39
June 28	Genesis 22:1-14 and Psalm 13; Jeremiah 28:5-9 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

### 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 **July/August Messenger** is Sunday June 14th. Please send articles to Messenger Editor, Carolyn Barton, tel 01730 265884 e-mail carolynbarton.barton6@gmail.com

### Solutions

**ACROSS:** 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

**DOWN:** 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils, 20, Give.

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

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

## Church Contact Details

<b>Church</b>	<b>Petersfield: College Street, Petersfield GU31 4AG 01730 266475</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 Mondays to Thursdays
Church & Community Worker	Mrs Jo Hopkins 01730 266475 <a href="mailto:communityworker@petersfieldurc.com">communityworker@petersfieldurc.com</a>
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Website	<a href="http://www.petersfieldurc.com"><u>www.petersfieldurc.com</u></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”*