



# Trinity E-News



Issue 8 / 23 Trinity's email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net) October 2023



**Our Minister is:**  
**Revd Claire Simpson**  
☎: 01256 323103  
email:  
[revclaire72@btinternet.com](mailto:revclaire72@btinternet.com)



**Trinity's Church and Building has now closed and Trinity and St Andrew's have merged.**

**From 3 September, we all are worshipping at St Andrew's Church, Western Way, Basingstoke.**

**Trinity E-News: Deadline for November Newsletter – Monday 16 October, sorry earlier**  
**Trinity E-News is available on the **Basingstoke & Reading Website** – link below.**

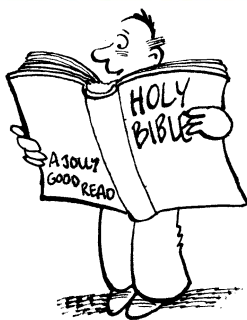
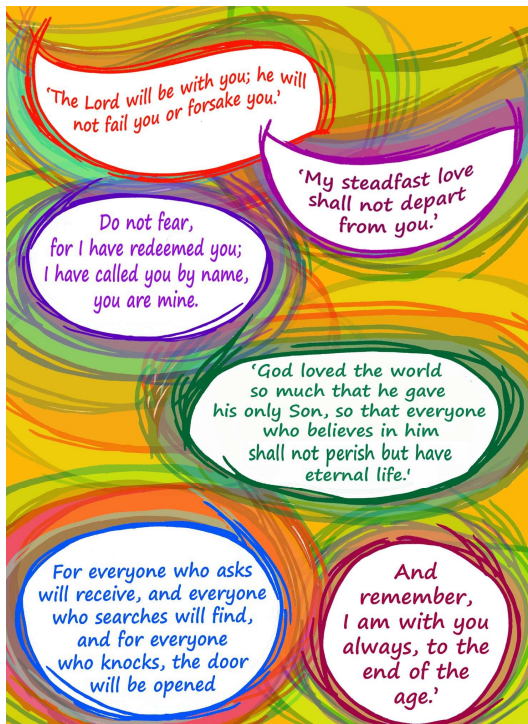
I love receiving your lovely pieces, so please keep them coming. **A Big Thankyou** to everyone who sends items in, they can be posted or emailed.

**Thank you again, Hazel, Ed**  
(☎: 01256-461375) & **email:**  
[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)  
16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke,  
RG21 1YQ

**Link to Circuit Website:**  
[www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](http://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

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**Online Circuit Services can be found here:**  
<https://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk/worship-prayer>

October 2023

Dear Friends

**God's Ravens still fly!**

One of the best things about holidays is the chance to read something, actually give it your attention and enjoy it.

Recently I spent a really lovely week with family on Guernsey and was given and read a book with the title of this article. The story of Elijah and the ravens may be very familiar to you but I confess that I often neglect the Old Testament in favour of the more modern parts of the Bible, so the story and its message is one I want to share with you.

In case you want to read it for yourself, you can find the story in *1 Kings Chapter 17* and briefly it is this:-

The Israelites and their Kings were busy trying out other gods than Jehovah and were living lives miles from the rules God had given them.

Elijah, God's prophet, had already warned King Ahab and his wife Jezebel about their allegiance to Baal and their wicked ways. He gave the king the clear message that only the God of Israel was entitled to be worshiped as a divinity. He warned Ahab that God was going to send a three year drought as punishment for his disobedience and wicked deeds. Following God's instructions, Elijah left the kingdom and crossed the Jordan to hide in the Kerith ravine in the desert. (Ahab's men were looking to kill him for speaking out against the King's behaviour).

God promised that during the drought and famine, while he was hiding from Ahab's men, ravens would bring Elijah bread and meat every morning and evening and the brook Kerith would provide water. We don't know how long Elijah stayed in hiding but God was true to his promise and the birds provided him with all that he needed to survive.

Eventually, because of the drought the brook dried up and God told Elijah to go to Sidon and ask a widow there to give him something to eat. Widows in Jewish society were often in a precarious position, without a husband or male relative to look after them. This widow was gathering firewood for cooking when Elijah met her, as God had promised.

Elijah asked the widow for bread just when she and her son were down to their last rations of oil and meal. However, he promised her that if she brought him a piece of bread "the jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends the drought."

Throughout the rest of the famine and drought God kept to his promise and provided for Elijah, the widow and her son by replenishing their flour and oil with just enough for each day.

Surprisingly this story only formed the introduction in the book I read, but the message was amazingly clear and really relevant to the situations so many Christians find themselves in today. The main part of the book recounted the stories of Christians who felt that God was calling them to help Jewish people in Russia and Eastern Europe to hear the Gospel and to receive parcels of food, clothes, medicines and other goods that they were lacking. The "ravens" in the account are those amazing people who provided huge quantities of goods and the means to transport them to Jewish people and Christian churches in need. God's faithful hand inspiring huge donations of food and medicine and making it possible to deal with tricky border crossings and other bureaucracy is evidence that modern miracles still happen.

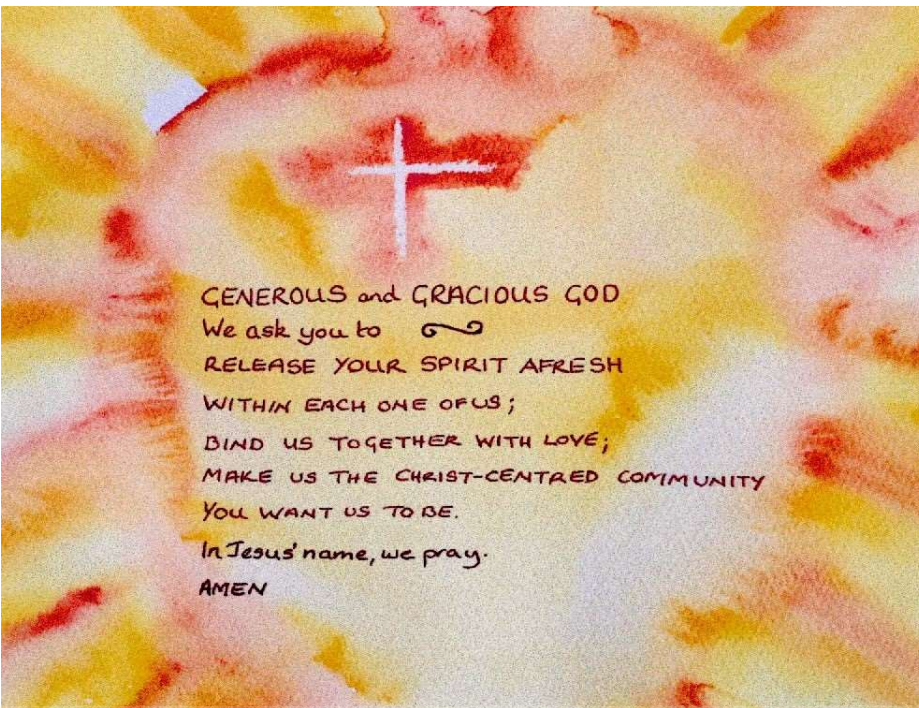
Just like Elijah we may find ourselves in difficult places or even being victimised for our faith but Bible stories remind us that there is nowhere that God's practical

help and his grace cannot reach us. God didn't provide Elijah with more than his physical needs but he sent him to an unlikely woman whose own rations were meager but who was willing to help a stranger out and to welcome him into her home.

I have been reminded by reading Elijah's story that today we may not have feathered ravens to bring our breakfast and supper but those who, prompted by God's spirit, do what he commands are his "ravens" of the everyday. We may not all be sent to beg bread from widows but I am sure that, like me, you have been fed, welcomed and supported by people who perhaps had very little money or goods of their own to share with others. Such people, by their generous actions are messengers of God's love and care for each one of us.

Let's recognise God's ravens even when they don't have beaks or feathers and give Him (and them) our thanks.

*Hilary*



**A Loving Christ-centred Community** – This prayer card was launched at our General Church Meeting on 1st October. The words “**A Loving Christ-centred Community**” are at the heart of the commitment card we prepared earlier this year. They express our desire to be that kind of community. This prayer is part of the next stage of our journey together as we become a new community. I invite you to use it at home, in house groups and at other meetings. Maybe other prayers will emerge for us to use together as we journey on. If you would like a larger print version of the prayer, please let me know, **Angela Webb**

## Thank You

'Just a few words to say a very heartfelt thank you to everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers following the death of my dad and especially on the day of the funeral.

The service went very well and was led by a supernumerary minister from mum and dad's church in Northampton followed by some lovely refreshments afterwards and a chance to catch up with family and friends that we hadn't seen in a while. It was a hot day but the sun was shining and we felt a great sense of gratitude and peace.'

**Rev Claire, John and the boys xx**

## Trinity Circle

**Our next meeting is Tuesday 10 October 7.30 pm at St Andrew's, Western Way.**

**Ann Walker will be taking our evening which will be a 'Quiz Evening' – maybe with a slight difference !!!**

**We extend a warm welcome to everyone to come along for an evening of fellowship.**

**We would love to see you, Sonia**



**Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson**

**Sunday Worship at St Andrew's & Trinity  
and our Basingstoke Churches**

**Plan for Worship – Oct & Nov 2023**

**Enquiries – Joint Senior Stewards:**

**Diane Bath** ☎: 01256 320429 or email [dianeath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianeath51@gmail.com)

**Linda Hoe** ☎: 01256 417219 or email [lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)



***Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – Oct 2023***

Dates	1 Oct	8 Oct	15 Oct	22 Oct	29 Oct
<b>St Andrew's &amp; Trinity 10.30 am</b>	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Ruth Midcalf	Mr Symon Turner	Mr Peter Frank
<b>Kempshott 10.30 am</b>	LA, Zoom	Mr Symon Turner, Zoom	Mr Peter Frank, Zoom	Mr Stephen Appiah, Zoom	Mrs Sarah Whithorn, Zoom
<b>Oakley 10.30 am</b>	Mr Symon Turner	Revd Claire Simpson	Revd Valerie Fisher, S	LA	Mr Chris Marsh
<b>Oakridge 10.30 am</b>	Mr Tony Bell	Mr Peter Frank	Mrs Paddy Jose	Mr Terry Rowell	Revd Claire Simpson, S
<b>Old Basing 10.30 am</b>	LA	Mr Stephen Appiah	Mrs Linda Hoe	Revd Valerie Fisher	Mr Stephen Appiah

***Basingstoke & Reading Circuit – Basingstoke Churches – Nov 2023***

Dates	5 November	12 November	19 November	26 November
<b>St Andrew's &amp; Trinity 10.30 am</b>	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Revd Claire Simpson, S, P	LA	Mrs Linda Hoe
<b>Kempshott 10.30 am</b>	LA, Zoom	Revd R Midcalf, Zoom	Mr T Bell, Zoom	Revd Claire Simpson, Zoom
<b>Oakley 10.30 am</b>	Mr T Rowell	Mr S Appiah	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Revd David Jenkins
<b>Oakridge 10.30 am</b>	Mrs L Hoe	LA	Revd V Fisher	Mrs S Whithorn
<b>Old Basing 10.30 am</b>	Revd Claire Simpson, S	Mr Terry Rowell	LA	Mr Chris Marsh

**Death of Rev Keith Burchell (1941-2023):** This is to inform you that Rev Keith Burchell, former minister in our circuit, died peacefully after a short illness on 6<sup>th</sup> September. His thanksgiving service will be held in Derby on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Anyone wishing to know further details of the service should contact Martin at [martin.beukes@methodist.org.uk](mailto:martin.beukes@methodist.org.uk)

## ***A Collection of Prayers, Thoughts and Reflections***

Hazel and Peter have very kindly gathered together the prayers and thoughts that I have submitted to the magazine over the last few years and put them into a booklet for me.

If anyone would like a copy then please let me know:

(Jennifer Pitt [pitt@btinternet.com](mailto:pitt@btinternet.com))

We are asking for a donation only and this will be given to a charity that is yet to be decided.

## ***A Collection of Prayers, Thoughts and Reflections***

*By*

***Jennifer Pitt ©***



### ***It is time to empty our Mission Boxes***

If you have of a Mission box, 'World Mission'/'Mission in Britain', would you please bring it to St Andrew's in the next few weeks. **Barbara Johnson** has volunteered to take your boxes from you. If it's difficult for you to come to Church, please let **Barbara** know. Thank you.



### **(JAM) – 'Jesus And Me'**

**Meets: 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm,  
usually the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the  
month.**



**The Next 'JAM' Date is:  
Sunday 15 October, 2.30 pm  
at St Andrew's**

\* \* \* \* \*

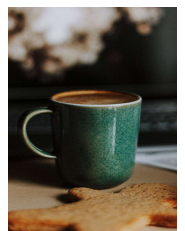
**JAM – Children & Families** now meet at St Andrew's, usually the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month to hear stories of Jesus, Craft, Singing & Tea.

All are very welcome.  
Do come along and join us.

## **Macmillan Coffee**

### **Morning**

The recent Macmillan Coffee Morning held at the Mug & Biscuit, end of September raised an amazing almost £400. Well done everyone.



### **Northern Housegroup**

Our next meeting will be on:

**Tuesday 3 October at 7.30 pm at Sonia's home.** This will be a Planning Meeting for future speakers etc. Please come along with some ideas.

**Edna, Hilary and Sonia**

- **Past and Present** – As half-term ended, the English teacher returned to teaching with a sigh. He felt nostalgic. He found the past perfect and the present tense.

## GO TO THE SILCHESTER RETREAT DAY? – WHO ME?



“It’s not really my thing” you say or “How on earth am I going to get to Silchester?” or “I can’t do things in front of others”.

For me it was the first reason. I didn’t think it was something that I would particularly enjoy.

Anyway, I went to my first one, after some persuasion and found it quite laid back and plenty of different activities to try to suit all tastes.

So, I went to my second one at the end of September. In the morning after a short worship time and an introduction to the theme of the day which was, “**A Glimpse of Glory**”, we were given a whole range of things that we could do if we wished which included going out into the garden around the church or going for a longer walk in the beautiful countryside around the church. There were a lot of indoor things to choose from as well, or you could do nothing at all if you wished. I chose the walk with 5 or 6 others and really enjoyed it. It was a beautiful, sunny morning. Not only that, in the lovely scenery we could see glimpses of God’s Glory in the insects, flowers and trees that were there.

On returning, there was still time to do something else before lunch if we wanted to or not if we didn’t want to. There is a lounge if you want to sit and read or just think about things.

During the opening worship time when we were introduced to the theme, an idea came to me. I can sometimes glimpse either visually or verbally, God’s Glory, in beautiful flowers or music and wondered how I could portray these in a picture. Then an idea came to me. I could try to draw a picture of a vase of flowers but instead of having ordinary flowers in the vase, have the flower heads made out of musical symbols. So, I did that and while I was doing it the words of the hymn came to me, ‘*Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*’ and that seemed to me to be most appropriate in which to frame the picture.

Do not feel you have to show others what you have done if you don’t want to. You are doing these things for yourself (and God) in a way that you choose, or following the theme of the day. It is an opportunity to try things out for yourself. You may even find a new pastime that you enjoy. You can try all or none of the options available it is up to you. You also have “permission” to do nothing.....just be.....wait for God to lead, to speak to you and put ideas into your head as He did me.

There was a short worship time when the theme was reviewed after which we left for home about mid-afternoon.

Why not give it a try? You might surprise yourself and actually enjoy it.

**Peter Ansell**

***‘Peter’s picture in on the next page’.***



Written by Pauline Ansell at  
the Silchester Retreat, 23.09.23

**'Glimpses of Glory'**

A baby's laugh

A mother's love

Innocence and devotion

Caring staff in an old folk's home

And an invalid under a blanket

Songs of birds

Berries on trees

Goodness freely given

Sun and moon and stars above

Mountains lakes and waterfalls

Grace and love

Peace and joy

Glimpsed around us all.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Boys Brigade News**

The Boys' Brigade had a very successful Promotions and Badge Presentations evening on the 15<sup>th</sup> September which Claire and her husband attended, followed on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> by our Church Parade and Harvest Service which was followed by a lunch for all those that wished to attend.

The afternoon continued at 2 pm for those that wished to stay, and many parents coming back having gone home for lunch, attending 'The Quiz' which had been prepared by our Senior Section boys (Adam, Aidan and Byron together with Barry the Officer for the Senior Section) as part of their Fund-raising badge work, monies from which will be going to St Michael's Hospice and the Boys' Brigade.

We also had BB Officers from another Company attending this Quiz. The feedback we have received has been very enthusiastic and may well result in a yearly Quiz to raise funds, so the boys have their work cut out to prepare another one again for next year.

**Theresa Strachan**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Boys Brigade** – especially the 5 - 8 year-old boys – If there are any boys out there with nothing to do on a Friday night between 6.30 pm - 7.45 pm, it's £2 per session and boys can come any Friday to see what we do and if they want to join us on a regular basis that would be great.

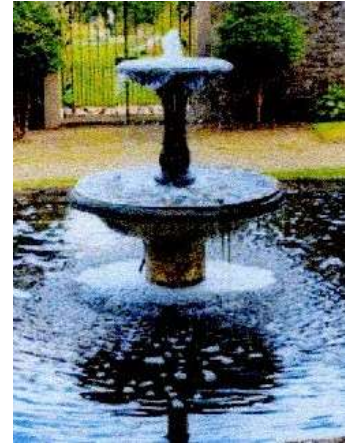
## The Fountain

You are invited to join me to launch a  
new quiet prayer group

in the **Quiet Room at St Andrew's**

on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

and / or **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October**



Both these occasions will be 'start up' meetings which will give us an opportunity to share any thoughts we have about this idea. (I am thinking that the meeting may be similar to Soulspace or to the praying with the Bible groups at my house.)

I have booked the Quiet Room **from 2:30 pm until 4:30 pm** on each occasion. I think that from 2:30 pm until 3 pm we will be chatting to get to know each other so if you can't make it until 3 pm that will be okay. We will focus our minds on the meeting from 3 pm to 4 pm ending with a time of quiet prayer. I will suggest that people go out from the Quiet Room at 4 pm, if they wish to talk, leaving anybody who wishes to continue to be quiet in the Quiet Room for a little longer.

Please come even if you cannot attend every meeting.

### Dates for your diary

I have also booked the Quiet Room from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm on

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

**Angela Webb**

[angela@webbfamily.org.uk](mailto:angela@webbfamily.org.uk)

PS Please share with anyone you think might be interested.

## Pens made from pews at Trinity

As a result of the sale of pens made from the pews at Trinity, I have been able to send a donation of £200 to ChildLine.

I would like to thank everyone that has bought a pen (or several in a few cases!). The demand greatly exceeded my expectations. Thank you.

**Tony Pitt**



**[Events & Contributions](#)** – Please let me know if you have any Events you would like advertised in the newsletter, and if you have any contributions you would like included – I'm always so glad to receive them, this is our Newsletter for all of us, *thankyou, Hazel, Editor*



## Welcome Service for our new Minister, Rev Claire Simpson

On Sunday afternoon 3 September at 4 pm, the sun was shining and we all gathered at St Andrew's Church, Basingstoke to **'Welcome'** our new Minister, Rev Claire Simpson, along with friends from all our Basingstoke and some of our Circuit Churches.

We were also delighted to have the Mayor, Cllr David Leeks, and Mayoress of Basingstoke join us, and representatives from many other local churches.

***A Message from the office of The Mayor of Basingstoke re Revd Claire Simpson's Welcome Service:*** "I am so pleased the event went well with many attendees, the Mayor and Mayoress have reported that they enjoyed meeting the new minister and everyone that was involved – please do thank everyone".

An address was given by Revd Andrew de Ville, Chair of our Southampton District, the hymns / worship songs were sung with great gusto and in true Methodist style, delicious refreshments were served afterwards when we all had an opportunity to meet and chat to Claire, her husband John and their sons Ben and Sam.

It was a very happy and joyful occasion.



***Our thanks to Bob Lock for taking Photos of the occasion.***



## South Ham Churches Lunch Club

The three churches on South Ham run a Lunch Club **every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month** welcoming people at St Joseph's Church, St Michaels Road, South Ham at 12.30 pm.

For the over 55's at £5 per head, you get a main meal which can be vegetarian followed by a hot drink, cake and biscuits and if you are a diabetic, a diabetic pudding.

**Bob Lock**



## Two letters written by past members of Trinity

*(Printed with their permission). The one from Rosi & Rachel Taylor is an extract of an email Tony and Jennifer Pitt received from Rosi Taylor, following the final service.*

Dear All

I am aware that tomorrow is the last service at Trinity before you all move across to St Andrew's. I haven't come up since John and family are busy and in any case we have a church picnic for my significant birthday which was earlier in the month! However I have not forgotten you all.

It has been quite a demanding time since March and the procedures I had, have not exactly resolved my health issues. However as Circuit Steward without a minister in circuit we have been very busy. Our new Super is lovely and starts in September. So my apologies for not joining you.

My memories of Trinity remain a very special part of my own Christian journey, but especially the opportunities for reflective prayer during Lent, the special way we approached both Advent and Lent in church for a few years and the wonderful Christian example of people like yourselves.

Some of the deepest things I experienced have obviously come with me here and influenced the leadership of things like our retreat days, prayer meetings and also my own preaching. Such lovely people at Trinity with so many varied gifts.

May God bless your worship together tomorrow as you say farewell to a building and prepare to continue fellowship alongside others as a fresh community.

May this be an opportunity to be thankful for what has been and hopeful and trusting for the richness of the future.

With every blessing

Hazel Parsons x

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear All

What a lovely service yesterday, everyone involved is to be congratulated. Thank you so much for thinking to invite us.

I feel I want to write individual letters to everyone who was there, either to say how much I enjoyed talking with them or to apologise that I didn't get to see them to talk to! But obviously that isn't going to happen, so please can you pass my best wishes on to anyone and everyone. I'm very touched that Ann invited me to write Anne Shepherd's name on a card to be brought forward; belatedly, I also thought of Betty Percival (and Richard), and Anne West, not to mention Bob and Ethel Green, who took us under their wing when we first arrived (the first service we attended, if memory serves me correct, was a Parade service at the start of December [1985?] led by Sheila Ayres – and extra chairs were put in the aisles to accommodate everyone!). To this day Rachel thinks of Bob and Ethel as the 'Smartie People', because they always had mini boxes of Smarties to hand to the children!

We included the Trinity congregation in our prayers of intercession at St John's in Hereford this week.

Love Rosi and Rachel

## Days to Christmas

Do you remember when we were children, counting off the days to Christmas? As I write today, 21<sup>st</sup> September, there are 95 days to Christmas Day.



Already the shops are selling Christmas cards, soon Father Christmas will appear, and with him, all the Festive trimmings. It all begins much earlier every year, and for businesses, it is a time of speculation, promotion of different products, and marketing.

How much does it all mean to the average shopper? Well, it is expensive. Ask any customer, and the array of items, can make it more difficult. So what do you buy that will have any meaning, two weeks after Christmas?

When we were young a stocking, or a pillow-case, hung on the end of the bed, was full of anticipation. Our expectations were small compared to today's but the excitement on Christmas morning was mammoth.

An apple, or maybe an orange stuffed in the toe of the stocking, a sweet lollipop, a colouring book, some crayons, socks, always socks, a handkerchief, embroidered for little girls. Perhaps a teddy bear, or a small doll, and for boys a model car.

Days were counted off to the big day, then early to bed, and no peeking!

Christmas Day was about Jesus being born in a stable, it was a family time, special food, including Christmas Pudding, with the three-penny piece inside. Don't swallow it Mum said. A happy time, a loving time.

Boxing Day followed, we listened to the radio, 'Billy Cotton's Band Show.' Or 'Tommy Handley, it's that man again.' Children played with their new toys. Grandad snoozed in the armchair; all was well with the world.

Now, is Christ still in Christ-mas? Do we send Christmas cards that remind folk of him, even those who are not religious? Is the value of a gift measured in sincerity, and not in hard cash?

Let's make Christmas the birthday of the Christ child, and not something so commercialized, that the love of the first Christmas disappears under the wrappings we discard, and throw away.

Happy Christmas when it comes. As Dickens Tiny Tim says, 'God bless us every one.'

**Margaret Garland**

## Come and Enjoy

*'Fellowship with Friends'* after  
Morning Worship on Sundays along  
with an *'enjoyable Coffee, Tea, Biscuit  
and sometimes even cake'!*



## Falling Leaves

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

*from a poem by Emily Bronte  
(1818-48)*

## Eulogy – Joan Evelyn Lawes

I would like to thank you all for coming today to celebrate the life of Joan Lawes, my Mum, Grandma to Matt and Greg and Great Grandma to Frank.

I'm a little nervous, I've always avoided public speaking since my days at secondary school when we were set an assignment to stand up and speak to the rest of the class for 5 minutes on a subject set by the teacher that I can't even remember now, but it terrified the life out of me, and here I am almost 50 years later !



***Photo of Joan on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday***

Mum was born in Woking on 25 August 1930 to Frank and Norah Tate, she had no brothers or sisters but she adored her little cousin John and they spent a lot of time together, especially during the war years. They always kept in touch. They had a bit of a love/hate relationship and loved winding each other up but they were very fond of one another.

Mum didn't travel much as a child or young adult but she did spend some time in Holland looking after 2 little girls which she always remembered fondly. She'd met my Dad by that time and they wrote affectionately to one another. Jackie asked me how Mum and Dad met and I honestly don't know, sadly its questions like that that you realise you'll now never know the answer to.

Mum and Dad married in 1955 and they set about building the bungalow at Winchester Road. Dad had started his own Electrical Business and Mum's role was answering the phone and keeping the paperwork in order – something she was very methodical about. I came along in 1962 and I'd like to think I bought them great joy!! Mum's favourite role was housewife, she enjoyed harvesting all Dad's labours from the garden and pickling, freezing, jam making, stewing etc. There was never any waste food, which probably stemmed back to the war rationing. Whilst Dad grew the veg, Mum grew the flowers and they both used to love visiting gardens and were active members of Preston Candover Gardening Club.

Because Dad found it difficult to take time away from the business they always made sure that I had holidays either by going "On Camp" with the Girls Brigade or by staying with my Aunty Ivy and Uncle Bill in Kent, I loved those holidays and Mum and Dad would stay for the weekend when it was time to come home.

I do remember one year we went to Weymouth for a holiday, I was probably 7 or 8 years old, we stayed in a hotel which I thought was very posh because we'd never stayed in one before. They took me to the beach and we went for walks every day, the drive there seemed to take forever in the Morris 1300, I wish we had that car now, or more to the point Robert and Matt would.

I left home in the 1980's and Dad no longer employed anybody so they were both able to enjoy holidays in Jersey and Guernsey amongst other places.

Matt was born in June 1992 and both Mum and Dad were over the moon. Sadly Dad passed away 3 months later. Mum spent a lot of time with us where she thoroughly enjoyed spending time with Matt. 17 months later Greg came along, he was a much easier baby to look after but the 2 of them together were a bit of a handful. When I told Mum that we were considering having another baby because I really wanted a girl Mum point blank threatened

*cont'd.....*

to leave town. Thinking about it I'm not sure where she would have gone because all her friends were in Basingstoke and she loved it here.

Mum enjoyed going on coaching holidays around the UK with her friends, I think she loved Scotland the best until the journey became too tedious. Mum went with several friends and they always had a great time. Mum also enjoyed her trips to Carlisle to visit John and Sheila. The last visit she made was with me and Matt, we flew up there as she wasn't so good on her feet and Matt was always right beside her when we went out and when needed he was right behind her when she convinced herself she was going to fall over or her knees were going to give way – which they did!

Mum always enjoyed the camaraderie of her ladies meetings including Trinity Circle and Towns Women's Guild. She spent many happy times at the meetings, the lunches and outings with these groups including seeing Muriel and Irene.

Mum's weekly treat was having her hair done and this task has been completed by Sharon for the last 40 years, obviously during that time they have become good friends as have Sharon and I. Sharon and her family have been invaluable to me in helping look after Mum in recent years and I would like to thank them from the bottom of my heart.

Mum and Dad have always been Methodists and they both had a very active involvement at Trinity Methodist Church. I remember going to the 1<sup>st</sup> Service there when it opened on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1970 and its with great sadness that the final service was on Sunday 27 August 2023. I didn't have the heart to tell Mum it was closing, I know she wouldn't have remembered but it would have still upset her.

Hazel Harris reminded me recently of all the Christmas crackers Mum made for the Church Bazaar every year. Our lounge would be covered in toilet roll centres, crepe paper, bangers, motto's and tiny gifts for months. My job was to cut about ½" off all the toilet roll centre's because they were slightly too big as standard. I never graduated to a fully-fledged cracker maker, that was always Mum's department and she loved it. Barbara too sent me a card sharing her fond memories of making crackers, they had such a laugh, so much so that they were put in a separate room for making too much noise at the Church.

Sheila also reminded me recently that Mum used to make crackers for the family and would send a box up to Scotland every Christmas and the children loved them, I remember Mum labelling them so everyone got the correct gift.

Mum loved most crafts, I've inherited that skill from her. She was a fantastic knitter and she also enjoyed crocheting. She was always asking people for any leftover balls of wool and she'd make them into blankets which were then taken out to Romania by her friends Pat and Vic for the orphaned children out there. When I was a child I was asked to be Bridesmaid for our cousin Maggie's wedding to Mike. Mum went to evening classes and made my bridesmaid's dress. Mum's last crafting skill was card making which she did for several years, she learnt all the different techniques and would sit for hours making cards for birthdays and Christmas, equally she loved receiving homemade cards and kept them all.

I would like to thank all the staff at Heatherside who helped look after Mum this year, I know at times she wasn't easy to please. I'd particularly like to thank Amanda who went above and beyond taking care of Mum.

I said earlier that Greg was an easy baby to look after, as he grew he became more confident and its that confidence that's taken him to Australia where he's joined us via the

*cont'd.....*

video link. Greg used to love playing tricks on his Grandma or just generally winding her up, his most annoying trait was talking too fast and despite wearing her hearing aid Mum still struggled to understand what Greg was saying and he knew it. He would also say things that she didn't understand, with that in mind I asked Greg if he would like to say anything and his response was "Rest Easy J Dizzle" – yeah I don't know what he means either. Mum's reply would be a short sharp "oh talk sense" and more recently "I don't know what he's talking about".

**Memories from Matt**, these are Matt's words and he's asked me to speak on his behalf:

*"This is hard for me even if it had been coming, I'm struggling to put into words how this makes me feel but I love you Grandma and I'm already missing you more than you would know. I have so many memories especially from being a nipper and having sleep overs at yours. The times Greg and I used to play cricket in the back garden and you'd tell us to be careful then about 2 minutes later a tennis ball would go through the greenhouse!*

*I'm so glad I got to say goodbye to you and I'll always have my memories with you to cherish. You've been an idol to me and I'll miss you greatly as will Greg!*

*Love you always Grandma".*

And I'd just like to say one more last time:

*"Night, night, sleep tight, don't let the bed bugs bite".*

**Carol Donaldson (Joan's daughter)**

\* \* \* \* \*

- God works in us and with us, not against us or without us – *John Owen*
- God always provides a light through every one of His tunnels – *Anon*
- We are saved not by our deeds but by Christ's sacrifice for our misdeeds – *Fred Catherwood*.

**The Mug & Biscuit at St Andrew's Church is Open on:**



**Hours of opening are:**

**Tuesday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**  
**Wednesday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**  
**Thursday: 10 am to 1.30 pm**



- We serve: **home-made cakes, jacket potatoes, toasted sandwiches & tea cakes.**
- Menu is subject to change. **Last Orders for hot food at 1 pm.**
- Takeaway Available. Credit Cards Accepted.

**The Mug & Biscuit is NOT OPEN during School Holidays.**

**The Mug & Biscuit is registered as a 'Warm Hub Opening' during 'Mug & Biscuit' Hours**



**We look forward to welcoming old & new friends.**



**The Mug & Biscuit Team**



**Useful ☎ & Email Contacts:**

**Our Minister is: Revd Claire Simpson**

☎: 01256 323103 / email: [revclaire72@btinternet.com](mailto:revclaire72@btinternet.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Contacts: Joint Senior Stewards:**

**Diane Bath** – ☎ 01256 320429 /  
email: [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com)

**Linda Hoe** – ☎: 01256 417219 /  
email: [lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lindahoe@hotmail.co.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

**St Andrew's Bookings: Contact – Bob Lock**  
email: [robertlock1@virginmedia.com](mailto:robertlock1@virginmedia.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Trinity E-News Editor: Hazel Harris** – email is:  
[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net) ☎ 01256-461375  
address: 16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 8YQ

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**Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:**  
[www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](http://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Basingstoke & Reading Circuit is a Registered Charity, Charity No. is: 1134891**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Circuit Administrator: Mrs Marion Young** can be contacted on: ☎ **07503 652961** (working hours only) & email: [marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](mailto:marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

**Oakley Methodist Church**



**Coffee Mornings in October**  
10.30 am – 12 noon  
On Tuesdays 10 & 24  
October

£1 for a bottomless tea or coffee & biscuits

*Also paperbacks available at 30p each*

**Oakley Methodist Church**

**A 'Date for your Diaries'**

**Oakley Christmas Fayre**

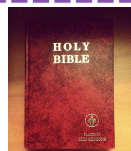


**Saturday 4 November**  
10 am – 12 noon

**Lots of Stalls**, but also Stalls supporting – St Michael's Hospice; one for Bluebells and Sebastian Action Trust.

**More info to follow**

**Ukraine War: Help Support the Church in Ukraine with Bibles**



<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/getinvolved/donate/>



**Old Basing Methodist Church**

**CAMEO – Tuesday 17 October, 11.30 am - 1 pm**

*An opportunity to 'Come along & meet each other'*

A Light lunch will be provided, sandwiches, cake and tea / coffee. Please bring along crafts of your choice.

\*\*\*\*\*

**'Time to Talk' – Tuesday 24 October, 2.00 pm**

The meeting will last for approximately one and a half hours. This group replaces our monthly prayer meetings. It is an opportunity to bring along your concerns, worries, and any news you would like to share whether it's good or bad. Meeting ends with a prayer.

**Gillian Smethurst**

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS  
ELECTED 1 OCTOBER 2023  
AT CHURCH GENERAL  
MEETING**

**SENIOR STEWARDS**

Diane Bath  
Linda Hoe

**STEWARDS**

Jenny Leighton  
Peggy Wood  
Edna Rawlins  
Bob Lock  
Katrina Cox

**CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL  
REPRESENTATIVES**

Michael Parker  
Martin Frost  
Llyn Frost  
Pauline Ansell  
Teresa Strachan  
Eileen Bethell  
Peter Harris  
Viviann Edwards  
Sue Doust  
Tony Pitt

**CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Barbara Johnson

***Two Prayers/Poems by Pat Murphy***

Jesus precious Saviour, how I love you Lord.

How I want to follow and obey your  
every word.

Make me your own child and equip me for  
your work,

Give me grace to follow and let me  
never shirk.

Then Lord lead me to your  
banqueting table,  
free from all my sin.

Let me praise and worship You,  
my wonderful Lord and King.

For me, for me it was for me  
That Jesus died on that  
cruel tree.

I can never understand why  
It was for me, He came to die.  
It's so amazing, His great Love,

That He should leave the  
Glory above,

To save a wretch like me,

Praise the Lord,

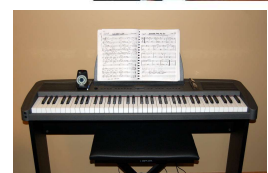
He set me free.

- **Here's a tip** – Lean outside and ring your own doorbell on your way to bed at night. This will clear the dogs off the bed long enough for you to get in and be comfortable.

**Circuit Musical for 2024 – A Date for your Diaries**

We have invited the team from Christian Music Ministries to lead us in presenting **"Wildfire"**, a musical about Stephen, the first Christian martyr, at **Christ Church Chineham on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. We will be looking for singers and musicians, and also people to see it in the late afternoon.

More details to follow, but if you want to know more, please contact David, [david@webbfamily.org.uk](mailto:david@webbfamily.org.uk)





**Silchester Methodist Church – Retreats 2023**  
**Full details can be found on the Basingstoke & Reading Website**

The Silchester Retreats will be held on the following  
 Wednesdays & Saturdays during 2023 from 10 am – 3 pm:

- **and lastly – Wednesday 22 November – ‘Watching & Waiting’**

**Refreshments from 9.30 am**

- Come and join us for a day of refreshment & reflection.
- Our retreats are to enable you to explore & experience meeting with God; to be explorers and journeyers.
- Please bring a packed lunch.
- Hot and cold drinks, including cup-a-soup provided.
- Cost per person: £10.
- For enquiries or to book for one of the Retreat Days, please contact Angela Hiscock at: [angela.hiscock@btinternet.com](mailto:angela.hiscock@btinternet.com) or phone Angela on ☎: 01256 850432
- Numbers are limited.
- Car parking and entrance to hall at rear of church

**RETREAT CENTRE  
 SILCHESTER RG7 2NY  
 PROGRAMME 2023**



	<p><b>web:</b> <a href="https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/">https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/</a></p>
	<p align="center"><i>For fuller information, check out their Website</i></p>

<p><b>At 29.09.23 the Foodbank Urgently need:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tinned Fruit</li> <li>• Tinned Meat (Hot, eg Chilli, Hot Dogs, Stewing Steak)</li> <li>• Tinned Spaghetti / Ravioli</li> <li>• Cooking Sauces</li> <li>• Long Life Fruit Juice</li> <li>• Hot &amp; Cold Desserts</li> <li>• Biscuits and Snacks</li> <li>• Ladies &amp; Gents Deodorant</li> <li>• Ladies Shampoo &amp; Conditioner</li> <li>• Nappies (Size 6, 7 &amp; 8) plus pull-ups</li> <li>• Washing Pods</li> <li>• All Household Cleaning Products</li> </ul>	<p><b>At 29.09.23 the Foodbank Urgently need:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reusable Shopping Bags</li> <li>• Cleaning Sprays &amp; Surface Cleaner</li> </ul> <p><b><u>We Have PLENTY of:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pasta &amp; Rice</li> <li>• Tinned Soup</li> <li>• Tinned Baked Beans</li> <li>• Pulses</li> <li>• Tea &amp; Coffee</li> <li>• Hot &amp; Cold Cereal</li> <li>• Non-Dairy Milk</li> <li>• Sanitary Products</li> <li>• Baby Food &amp; Formula</li> <li>• Hand Soap</li> <li>• Men's Shampoo</li> <li>• Dog &amp; Cat Food</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>We Are Running Low on:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tinned Rice Pudding</li> <li>• Hot Chocolate</li> <li>• Instant Mashed Potato</li> <li>• Powdered Milk</li> <li>• Sweet &amp; Savoury Spreads</li> <li>• Peanut Butter</li> <li>• Toilet Rolls</li> <li>• Tinned Veg</li> <li>• Tinned Carrots</li> <li>• Sweets, Chocolate &amp; Other Sweet Treats</li> <li>• Feminine Hygiene Products</li> <li>• Washing-up Liquid</li> </ul> <p>• <b><i>We don't change God's message – His message changes us – Anon</i></b></p>
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<p><b>SATURDAY</b> 7TH OCTOBER 6.30 EMC "ALLELUJAH"</p>	 <p><b>ALLELUJAH</b> BLOCKBUSTER FILM</p>	<p><b>FILM NIGHTS AT EMMANUEL</b> Oxford Road, RG30 1EE</p> <p><b>Entrance Free</b></p>  <p><b>Refreshments</b> A Donation towards cost of refreshments will be appreciated. Thank you</p>
<p><b>SATURDAY</b> 11TH NOVEMBER 6.30 EMC "THE UNLIKELY PILGRIMAGE"</p>	 <p><b>"ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS"</b> "IT'S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO LOVE THIS MOVIE" "JIM BROADBENT IS EXCELLENT" "PENELOPE WILTON IS OUTSTANDING"</p> <p><b>The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry</b></p>	

- If Christians praised God more, the world would doubt Him less – *C E Jefferson*
- Some people treat God as they do a lawyer; they go to Him only when they are in trouble – *Anon*
- One thing all nations have in common is the ability to see each other's faults – *Anon*
- A clear conscience makes a soft pillow – *Anon*
- The need of the world is to listen to God – *Albert Einstein*
- Affliction is God's shepherd dog to drive us back to the fold – *Anon*

## Eco District Webinars

Helping our District reach Net Zero by 2030

### Lament, Hope & Wisdom

**23rd October**  
Reflecting theologically on the environmental crisis

### Integrating Creation Care & Evangelism

**22nd January**  
Good news for people and planet

### Why be an Eco District?

**13th November**  
Understanding the Benefits, Challenges & Impacts

### Understanding Sustainable Buildings

**12th February**  
Getting practical about reducing carbon emissions, one step at a time

### Calculating Carbon

**11th December**  
Discover the data needed to reach Net Zero at home and at church

### So what should we do about climate change?

**11th March**  
Practical actions for everyday disciples to combat the climate and ecological crisis

The Methodist Church Southampton District    The Methodist Church Learning Network

## Recycling of Plastic Milk Bottle Tops –

If you have plastic milk bottle tops (*only milk bottle tops*) & would like to recycle them, Pamela has a contact with a collector for Hants & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Tops can be given to Pamela or ring the Bishop family on 📞: 01256 467702. Thank you.

**June Bishop**



## KINGSCLERE METHODIST CHURCH

Saturday 18 November 2023

### GUITAR RECITAL

in our Church Sanctuary

6:00 pm

Ticket price: £12.50

Join Maestro Mark Jennings for an enthralling evening of virtuoso guitar classics. This acclaimed guitarist has won the hearts and minds of audiences for many years across the UK and overseas. Known for his brilliant technique, stunning sounds and musicality, Mark will transport us to serene, dynamic and beautifully exotic musical landscapes, treating us to some of the masterpieces of Rodrigo, Albeniz, J. S. Bach, Tarrega and others.



Tickets can be ordered by phoning (leave a message): 01635 299316 or email to: [hazelrobbie321@gmail.com](mailto:hazelrobbie321@gmail.com)

50% of the proceeds go towards Kingsclere Methodist Church funds.

Refreshments will be served during the interval

### A Prayer for October by Daphne Kitching (PP)

Dear Lord and Creator of all things,

In this fast-moving and high-tech world, help us to slow down – just occasionally – to notice the rhythms of Your creation; the beauty of the colours of autumn; the annual ritual of falling leaves and darkening evenings. All part of Your cycle of the year that we often take for granted.

And yet Lord, there is evidence of changes in our climate – extremes of temperature, droughts, floods and wildfires. There is evidence that our behaviour might be responsible for damaging Your world.

Lord, we thank You for Your goodness and faithfulness and grace to us. We are sorry when we get things wrong. Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to be in a right relationship with You. Help us to put our trust in Him and as part of living Christian lives, to accept our responsibility for caring for the world You created. In Jesus' name, Amen

### Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal: *Christian Aid* *thanks supporters*

Eight months on from the devastating earthquakes that killed at least 58,000 people across southern Turkey and northwest Syria, Christian Aid has thanked the generosity of their supporters for raising over £3.4m to help “tens of thousands of people who lost their homes, livelihoods and loved ones.”

Since the deadly earthquakes on 6<sup>th</sup> February, the first of which struck in the early hours of the morning when many people were asleep and destroyed thousands of buildings, survivors have faced torrential rains and flooding and then the extreme summer heat affecting much of southern Europe.

In northwest Syria, working through local partners and with funding from several donors, Christian Aid has been able to reach more than 60,000 people badly impacted by the earthquake and another 5,000 people in Southern Turkey.

- 100 years ago, on 10 October 1923 Nicholas Parsons, radio & TV game show host & actor was born. Best known for hosting *Just a Minute* & *Sale of the Century*. (Died 2020)
- 90 years ago, on 17 October 1933 physicist Albert Einstein arrived in the USA as a refugee from Nazi Germany.
- 75 years ago, on 27 October 1948 the Morris Minor car was launched at the British Motor Show at Earl's Court in London, costing £358.



## Chaplaincy Prayer Letter

September 2023

Greetings - as we move into autumn, but have weather appropriate to the height of summer... It is a 'new start' season with schools back and church activities restarting in full. There is renewed enthusiasm and excitement. Chaplains have been busy throughout the summer and have had a surprising number of conversations on spiritual matters in the Courts, shops and on the streets. They have been able to bring God, with His love and grace, into some difficult situations that people face. Some people have gone on to seek Him in their local churches.

A verse from Isaiah is an encouragement:

**... lift up your voice and shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God!'**

The whole Bible is the story of God's mission to draw people back to Himself and we all have a small part in that mission. We can invite people into our communities and we can also go out to meet people in Basingstoke who would not otherwise consider coming to a church or expect to feel welcome there. We can surprise them with God's love and welcome!

**Thank you** for your support in this ministry. Your prayers are precious to us and we do see them answered, as we meet people and seem to be given the right words to say to encourage and support them. Some people we meet regularly, others are by God's one-off contact.

**Work at the Courts continues three mornings a week and we now support the monthly Living with Loss Café at the Discovery Centre. We are also looking to facilitate more Christian presence in the town centre at Christmas, and value your prayers for that – for what is appropriate and possible, and for sufficient support from church groups to make it happen.**

Sadly, the loss of Malcolm Read this summer has impacted us in several ways. His enthusiasm and commitment inspired us and he had built up a good relationship with staff at the bus station and Top of Town. Other Chaplains, too, have family concerns that are restricting or stopping them serve at present. So we are keen to welcome anyone who feels they may be called to this ministry, to go round with a Chaplain to see first-hand what we do. If you would like to learn more about how Chaplaincy works, and what different roles there are we would love to hear from you. Of you could suggest it to someone who gets on well with people and may be suitable.

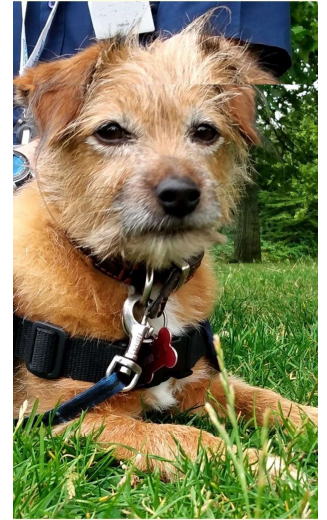
Can we be invited to your church? We are ready to visit any church to explain what we do; as we get to know you we can confidently refer people to your church, knowing they will receive a good welcome.

As we all seek to witness to God's grace and love may we support one another in all the ways we can.

John Hayward, Chair of Trustees

Molly,  
the Wellbeing Dog

Molly the Wellbeing Dog



## Please pray:

- For grace and wisdom as Chaplains meet with people in different circumstances
- For the Chaplains in the Courts meeting accused, witnesses and staff
- For our training on awareness of domestic abuse on 30 September  
(churches are welcome to send someone to learn with us - contact [admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:admin@basingstoketownchaplaincy.org.uk))
- For the welfare of the community in Basingstoke and those working in the town centre
- For more Chaplains to share the Good News and engage with people
- For the collaborative plans to mark the Christian meaning of Christmas in the town centre

## Loaves and Fishes

They came together from far and wide  
All wanting to hear what the  
preacher would say  
Hanging onto His every word  
Nobody ever taught this way.

The crowd were hungry, so many to feed  
As a young lad offered the Master his lunch,  
Five barley loaves and two small fish -  
For such a crowd it wasn't much.

Who could imagine what He would do  
As He blessed the crowd  
on the mountainside?  
And looking up and giving thanks  
Bread and fish were multiplied.  
Whatever we give the Master to use  
Just like the lad with an offering small,  
Placed in the hands of the Miracle Worker  
He multiplies the gift bringing blessings to all.  
*by Megan Carter (PP)*



# foodbytes

News updates from Basingstoke foodbank

- Below are excerpts from the Foodbank Summer Newsletter 2023

## Resolving crises, Helping those in need

Welcome to our summer update! We are as busy as ever here at the Foodbank, with the rising cost of living impacting many in our community, as well as school holidays causing increased costs for many families.



## Foodbank News

### Welcome Ruth – Our New Operations Manager



Ruth joined us on 12 June as our new Operations Manager. You may see her at head office or out at our centres as she manages the day to day running of the Foodbank.

Ruth was formally a community mental health nurse, but has spent the last year working in the admin office at St. Mary's Church Eastrop. She brings lots to the team with her experience of supporting people with mental health challenges, and we're already benefiting from her social media and IT skills.. so good to have a 'younger person' join the team!

### Gearing up for Harvest

It is that time of year again when we begin to think about our harvest donations. Last year we were delighted and overwhelmed by the generosity of our local pre-schools, schools and colleges who donated over 6.6 tonnes of food during the season, as well as the generosity of churches, social groups, businesses and individuals. These donations went to supporting the 7000 people who we fed last year.

This year, we are seeing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis in our 7 centres with an increase in demand of 31% in the first 6 months of 2023, and know that this is impacting many families. We have therefore called our schools' harvest 'Bring a tin' so that everyone can participate without feeling pressured to send several items to school or college.

Over the school summer holidays we will be getting our Schools Team together so that in September they are ready to visit school assemblies to let the children know what we do and why.

## Updates

### School Holiday Meals

We are aware that for some families, school holidays can be a particular strain on the finances. This may be due to loss of the free school meals during this period but there are often also additional costs of child-care or of occupying children for six weeks. To support these families, we have partnered with local schools and colleges in Basingstoke and Tadley and encourage them to refer any families who will be struggling to feed their children during this time. We offer fortnightly food parcels over the holidays which provides meals for the whole family for three days as well as toiletries and other household basics. This should significantly help with weekly shopping costs. By dropping into our centres to collect their food, these families also have a chance to confirm their food choices, speak with our volunteers about other support available and use the Citizen's Advice drop-in.

### Rough Sleepers Food Packs

Working together with Julian House Homeless Outreach Team and the Camrose Centre, we provide food packs for those sleeping rough in Basingstoke. These packs are small and light enough to be carried in one bag, but contain enough food for a whole day. We ensure everything into these packs can be used without any form of cooking facilities, while also offering variety and nutrition.

### Introducing a Foodbank Centre – Brighton Hill

Our Brighton Hill Centre is located in Basingstoke Baptist Church and open on a Wednesday Morning 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. It is run by our team of volunteers, Marily, Krevin, Sue, Iris, Paul, Pat, Vanessa and Elizabeth. The Team describe themselves as a friendly group who like a laugh and a dance! They enjoy spending time together outside of Foodbank, and often do this by visiting The Café Dome, a community café located in Brighton Hill. When asked what they enjoy about being part of the Foodbank, one of the volunteers said "I really love it when we meet someone for the first time and can put them at ease so they leave feeling better than when they arrived".



CAP Debt Coach, at our Foodbank centres. Diana visits a different centre each month and is available for our clients to speak to about taking the first step in the process of freedom from debt. Both CAP Debt Coaches and Money Lifeline Advisors offer independent, non-judgemental, support. They work with their clients to sort and organise debts, create an affordable payment plan, deal with creditors on their client's behalf and continue to support them until they are debt free. We would encourage anyone facing debt, no matter how big or small, to seek this support. For more info about Money Lifeline, visit:

[www.moneylifeline.org](http://www.moneylifeline.org) and to find out more about CAP debt support visit: [www.capuk.org/get-help/cap-debt-help](http://www.capuk.org/get-help/cap-debt-help)

**Sign up to our Foodbytes mailing list by visiting our website at:**

<https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk>

### A Funny Old Lady

I look in the mirror  
And who do I see?  
A funny old lady  
Looking at me

I don't know her  
Who can she be?  
That funny lady  
She isn't me

A little like my Nan  
A lot like my Mum  
A face that shows  
A life well run

Lines and wrinkles  
Are all I see  
That tired old face  
Can't be me

I am young  
With a life to live  
Full of hope  
And love to give

I can skip  
And dance and run  
The life ahead  
Has just begun  
The joys the pain  
Are yet to come

I look in the mirror  
And who do I see?  
I see the young woman  
I used to be.

**by Hilda PP**

*Nigel Beeton: 'This poem, written by a patient who (in the spirit of confidentiality) is happy to be known as 'Hilda'. I loved it, so begged permission to share it with my friends at PP*

## Men's Clothes for Asylum Seekers

Please contact Margie Mendelsohn:  
[margiem@hubcommunitychurch.org](mailto:margiem@hubcommunitychurch.org)  
 or: ☎ 07946 483805

### MEN'S CLOTHES NEEDED PLEASE

GOOD CONDITION

SIZES: S, M, L

Jeans, Joggers, hoodies  
 T-Shirts, Trainers

NEW: Boxers & Socks

We have 60 new arrivals we are supporting in the hotel



EMAIL:  
[MARGIEM@HUBCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MARGIEM@HUBCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG)  
 or 07946483805

## Little by Little does Very Nicely (PP)

We've all heard the hype about the need to do 10,000 steps a day, to stay fit. But recent studies have found that even just walking 4,500 steps a day can bring significant health benefits. It seems that, compared to adults who take less than 2,000 steps a day, people who take 4,500 steps a day are 77 per cent less likely to have a cardiovascular problem in the following three years. And it also seems that, no matter what you are currently walking, even just adding 500 steps a day to your distance can bring you significant health benefits. "We were surprised to find that every additional quarter of a mile, or 500 steps, of walking had such a strong benefit to heart health," says Dr Erin Dooley, an assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health. "While we do not want to diminish the importance of higher intensity physical activity, encouraging small increases in the number of daily steps also has significant cardiovascular benefits."

## Night Light Winter Shelter 2023 (taken from OneChurch)

We are at the point of recruiting volunteers to help with the running of the shelter from 1 December 2023 to 1 March 2024 and have 2 upcoming training dates:

- Saturday 14 October at 10 am at Christ Church Chineham
- Tuesday 17 October at 7.30 pm at Hope community Church

Please contact Tania Frampton-Hayward for more info:  
[jthayward@gmail.com](mailto:jthayward@gmail.com)



**Bibles**

**Shoemakers**  
 CHRISTIAN BOOKS & COFFEE SHOP

**Gifts & Cards**

**Great News – We thank God that Shoemakers is Remaining OPEN in the Arcade, Newbury, 22.09.23**

**Church Supplies**

**Shop Open: Tuesdays – Saturdays – 9.30 am – 4 pm**

**Shoemakers Christian Bookshop, The Arcade, Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5AD**

**Books, Children's Books**

- **Website:** [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk) (for online orders)
- Email Orders – [office@christophershoemaker.org.uk](mailto:office@christophershoemaker.org.uk) or Pop in
- Phone your orders – during opening hours ☎: 01635 37836
- Facebook messenger at: [www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks](http://www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks)
- Click and Collect available and Orders can be posted or delivered to you.
- Coffee Shop IS CLOSED



## LAST CHANCE TO HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR FUTURE PILLARS ZAMBIA!



**On Friday 6 October, both the recycling box at St Andrew's and the bin outside Trinity will be emptied for the Very Last Time.**

**This date is different from the one given in the September newsletter. 6 October is the CORRECT LAST DATE.**

This will give time for the last shipment to reach TerraCycle and be processed in order to redeem our points at the end of October. Christchurch Chineham have kindly agreed to have the money raised from the points paid into their bank account. Once everything has gone through they will transfer the funds to Future Pillars, Zambia with a covering letter from Heather P. Many thanks to all of you who have supported this fundraising project over the years, many, many thanks. From all that rubbish we have raised about £1000!

**Please help us to make the last shipment a bumper one. We need:**

**BISCUIT and CAKE WRAPPERS. We also need the FLEXIBLE PACKAGING from DISHWASHER TABLETS, DETERGENT CAPSULES, and HOUSEHOLD WIPES. TINTED CONDITIONER BOTTLES and TINTED TUBS, PLASTIC AIR FRESHENERS, CARTRIDGE CAPS & PLASTIC CAR AIR FRESHENERS.**

If anyone would like me to collect from their house just give me a call.



**Many Thanks, Hazel Green**  
([malandhazel@hotmail.com](mailto:malandhazel@hotmail.com)) (☎: 07776 442529)

### **Canon Paul Hardingham considers why Christians put such a high value on the Bible. Bible Sunday is on the 29 October (PP)**

At the recent Coronation the King was given a Bible with the words **'the most valuable thing that this world affords'**. As Bible Sunday is celebrated this month, let's ask why we should read the Bible? The Bible isn't a single book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over 1500 years in a range of styles including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (looking at the end times). Despite having a number of different writers, it claims one authority – God Himself! *'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work'* (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired (*'the word of God in the words of men'*) and equips us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide us when we read: *'when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth'* (John 16:13). **How should we read the Bible? Let's consider these guidelines:**

**Right time:** We need a regular routine, which will meet our needs. This will vary according to our circumstances: e.g. a mum at home with young children, somebody with a demanding job or a retired person.

**Right Place:** We need to find a space where we can be undisturbed (e.g. lounge, bedroom, train or kitchen).

**Right Version:** We need a version of the Bible which we can readily understand and use. A number of versions are available (e.g. NIV, The Message), as well as Bible apps we can access on our phone.

**Right Help:** Reading notes also help us to understand a passage and apply it to our lives. Let's get reading!!

For the Young & Young at heart

PUZZLES

Crossword

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapters 39:20-41:44

Joseph's brothers had sold him as a slave and he had ended up in Egypt. Then he was wrongly accused and was sent to prison.



Joseph was trusted to look after the other prisoners.

Then Pharaoh's butler and baker were sent to the prison. One night they had strange dreams.



...I made the juice from the grapes and gave it to Pharaoh..

...all the bread in my baskets was eaten by birds.

God knows what your dreams mean - you will be pardoned ... but you won't.



The two men left the prison.



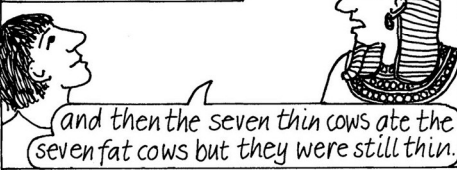
Two years later Pharaoh had a dream



None of his advisors could explain it...



So Joseph was cleaned up and sent to Pharaoh



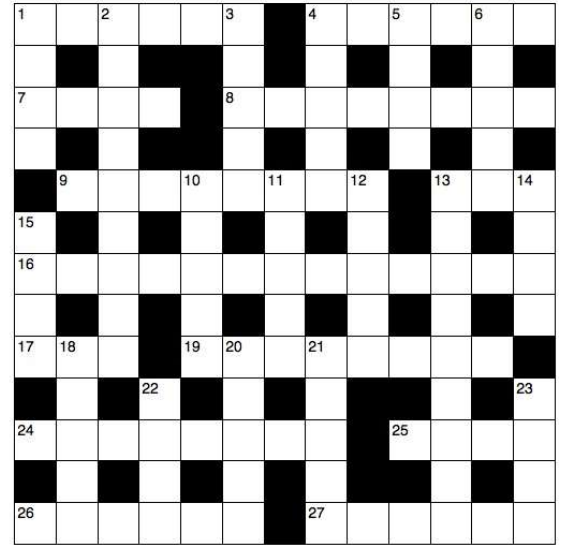
God says there will be seven bumper years, then seven years of famine.



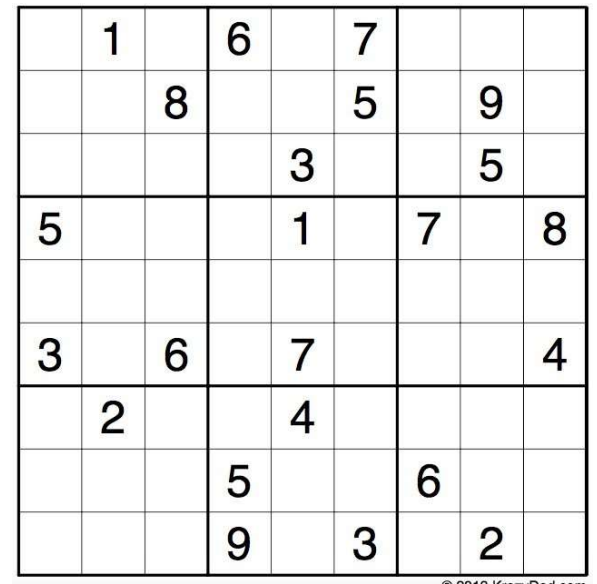
You must choose someone trustworthy to store the spare food in the good years



Pharaoh was so impressed he gave Joseph the job!



Sudoku

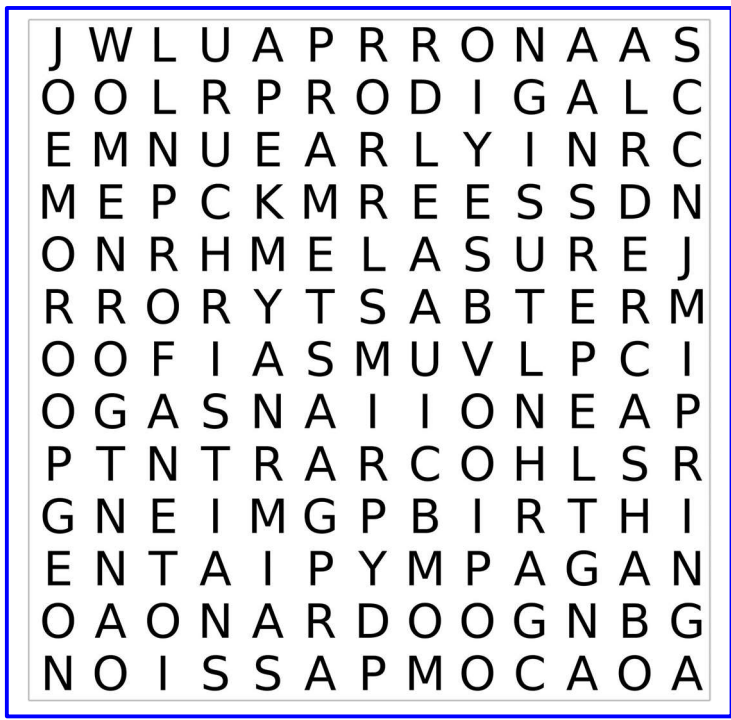


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Wordsearch - St Luke

To St Luke, whose feast-day is 18 October, we owe a beautifully written gospel as well as the Book of Acts. He was a Greek physician and faithful travelling companion to St Paul. Under house arrest near the end of his life Paul noted, 'only Luke is with me'.

- |            |        |          |
|------------|--------|----------|
| Companion  | Paul   | Prodigal |
| Physician  | Luke   | Women    |
| Compassion | Early  | Virgin   |
| Christians | Arrest | Lepers   |
| Jerusalem  | Son    | Sacred   |
| Samaritan  | Birth  | Profane  |
| Parables   | Poor   | Pagan    |
| House      | Good   | Rome     |





**Mouse Makes**

**CONNECT THE BIBLE FOOD PAIRS**

MANNA	HONEY
OIL	WINE
WATER	FISH
LOCUSTS	QUAIL
LOAVES	FLOUR

What drink ran out at the wedding?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and what did Jesus use to make more?  
John 2:3 and 7

What food did God supply for his people in the wilderness?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Numbers 11:7-9 and 31

After Elijah came to visit, what never ran out?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Kings 17:14

What food did the ravens feed Elijah?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Kings 17:6

What food did John the Baptist eat in the wilderness?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 3:4

What did the boy give Jesus to feed 5,000 people?  
Five \_\_\_\_\_ and two \_\_\_\_\_  
John 6:9

**FIND THE BIBLE VERSE**

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter before it in the alphabet.

NBO TIBMM OPU  
MJWF PO CSFBE  
BMPOF, CVU PO  
FWFSZ XPSE UIBU  
DPNFT GSPN UIF  
NPVUI PG HPE.

NBUUIFX 4:4

**DID YOU KNOW?**

As Lot escaped Sodom with his family an angel told him not to stop or look back, but Lot's wife did look back and became a pillar of salt.

READ Genesis 19 v15-26

Find the words below and the answers to the questions all in the word search

OLIVES • CHEESE  
FIGS • DATES  
MUSTARD  
RAISINS • WHEAT  
SALT • GRAIN  
FRUIT • GRAPES  
VEGETABLES

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

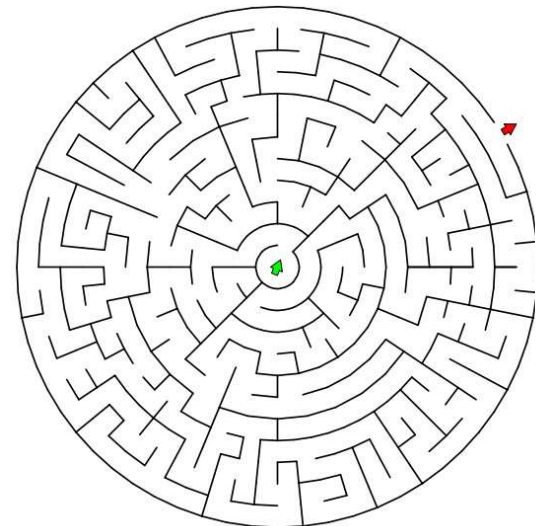
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**Crossword Clues – Across:**

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Ps 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the —' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)
- 19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)
- 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)
- 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)
- 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)
- 27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a —!' (John 2:16) (6)

**Crossword Clues – Down**

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)
- 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)
- 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)
- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born —' (John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)
- 13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)
- 14 'This is my —, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)
- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)
- 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)



- 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)
- 22 Bats (anag.) (4)
- 23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

Puzzle Pages Solutions

**Across:** 1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob. 16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John. 26, Enable. 27, Market.

**Down:** 1, Dawn. 2, Afternoon. 3, Nehum. 4, Again. 5, Prey. 6, All to. 10, Users. 11, Ephod. 12, Trace. 13, Metalwork. 14, Body. 15, Eber. 18, Alban. 20, Uncle. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.

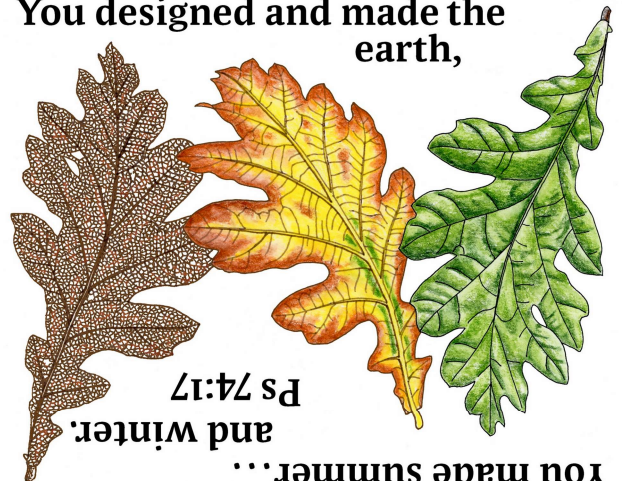
Sudoku Solution

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



b	i	r	d	s	w	e	g	y	p	t	j
b	a	f	k	a	r	t	h	i	n	r	u
b	r	p	a	r	d	o	n	e	d	u	i
d	r	e	a	m	a	v	i	n	n	s	c
n	b	i	a	r	i	z	i	e	d	t	e
b	u	k	a	d	n	n	v	s	j	w	t
a	m	h	e	o	d	e	e	o	o	r	
k	p	n	s	o	s	p	i	m	s	r	u
e	e	i	o	o	a	a	e	e	t	s	
r	r	f	o	r	g	e	t	o	p	h	t
p	h	h	g	c	o	w	s	n	h	y	e
k	c	p	j	b	u	t	l	e	r	q	d

You designed and made the earth,



Egypt	Baker	Thin	Grapes	Famine	Seven
Butler	Prison	Juice	Pardoned	Pharaoh	Trustworthy
Advisors	Food	Dream	Someone	Birds	Bread
Forget	Cows	Bumper	Trusted	Joseph	Choose

