

♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*

November 2024



'The Last Post' Menin Gate in Ypres.
Photograph by David Skitt

We will remember them...

...all are welcome in this place!



**Trinity Methodist Church,
Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2JL**

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**The closing date for items for the Dec '24/Jan '25 Edition of Trinity Tidings is
Sunday 24th November 2024**

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:
arleystation@aol.com**

Thanks to John Harris for Designing the Front and back covers,
and to Jon Skitt for putting the magazine online each month.

We will remember them...



'The Last Post' - Menin Gate, Ypres
Photograph by David Skitt

Front Cover Photograph:

**"Members of the Ypres Fire Brigade
playing the Last Post at
the Menin Gate, Ypres"**

"Every evening at 8pm members of the
Ypres Fire Brigade play the Last Post at
the Menin Gate in Ypres.

This was the scene of two great battles
during the First World War, when the city
was almost destroyed. It has been played
since 1928.

During WW2 it was played at a military
cemetery in Sussex. Around 2 - 4 hundred
people gather to be part of it."

David Skitt

Dear Friends,

I came across this short poem/article written in 2014 by the children's author, poet, activist and academic, Michael Rosen and I want to share it with you.

It's called 'Promised Land'

A family arrived and said they had papers

to prove that his house was theirs.

*"No, no", said the man, "my people have always lived here,
my father, my grandfather . . . and look, the garden,
my great-grandfather planted that".*

"No. No", said the family, "look at the documents".

There was a stack of them.

*"No need to read the beginning" they said,
turn to the page marked 'Promised Land'".*

"Are they legal?" he said, "who wrote them?"

*"God" they said, "God wrote them". "Look -
here come his tanks".*

I wonder if Michael Rosen had sat down to write this more recently, whether he'd have changed it in any way.

As most of you attending worship in recent weeks will be aware, October was designated 'bible month', when our preachers focused particularly on the book of Genesis. This first book of the bible not only gives us two accounts of creation, but also establishes Israel as God's chosen people and begins to introduce the notion of a 'promised land'. A theme that is developed and realised in the second book of the bible, Exodus. As a liberal, catholic (small 'c') Christian exercising my ministry within Methodism, I don't see the bible as infallible and I believe it must be read and understood in context. I also believe we must remember that those who wrote the bible, particularly that which we know as the Old Testament, are the same people who say God promised them land!

With that in mind I think we should continue to pray for the situation and the current conflict in the Middle East. Because, as with all conflicts, it is perpetuated by older men in positions of power, whilst the innocent suffer the consequences, and this conflict is no different. And if we are inclined to take sides, whichever side we choose, remember, everyone who suffers needs our prayers.

In a continually shrinking world surely all people deserve to live their lives in peace, without the threat of someone taking what is rightfully theirs, especially in the name of your God.

Every blessing,

Nick.

PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Betty Norman, Josephine and Ranzi Seremwe, Maureen Homer, those on the Prayer Vine, those whose names are put in the prayer book and people we know who need the love, comfort and the knowledge of Christ's presence with them.



During the month of November, please remember and pray
for the area of Kidderminster known as
Habberley and Blakebrook

Habberley and Blakebrook

November

St John's Church

Sheltered accommodation

Kidderminster Hospital

Police Station

KEMP

Shops

Residential housing

Gables, Bryden House, The Firs, Coombe House, Holly
Fields and Brookdale Nursing Homes

St John's School and Nursery, Baxter College and The
Wyre Forest School

Doctors Surgeries



From the Editor....

Autumn is with us and we see nature changing, as if the trees, flowers and plants are settling down for a well-earned sleep. The swallows and house martins left us weeks ago and although I was sad to see them go, there is the promise that they will return next spring.

The obvious thing we notice is the change in the colours of the leaves on the trees, all colours from yellow and orange, through to bright red, before they fall.

My garden looks a mess and needs a lot of work to tidy it up, but the Saturday after 5th November we will have a bonfire and fireworks complete with Chip Butties. This is mostly members of my family and friends, but I have a cunning plan, which is that in January or February they have to come and dig the garden ready for planting next year. I wonder how many excuses they will have when the time comes.

The huge marquee has gone up, ready for the Severn Valley Railway Christmas Pantomime. It seems larger and grander than ever this year. It brings a lot of fun and happiness to the people who come – and to me too!

We must not forget Remembrance Day, when at 11o'clock on the 11th November the War to end all Wars ended. There was going to be peace evermore – but it did not happen, because 20 years later it began again, and still, after over 100 years there is no peace in the world.

"When will they ever learn, when will they ever learn."

David



OFFERTORIES FOR THE FOUR WEEKS TO 27th OCTOBER ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
06.10 & 13.10.24	486.00	175.00	1583.50	2244.50
20.10 & 27.10.24	306.00	237.08	1583.50	2126.58

This is a weekly average of £1092.77

For the current church year to 31st August 2025 it is estimated that offertories of £1200 per week will be required to break even.

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Nov 3 rd	10.30am	Deacon Becky Lovatt	
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison	-- All Saints Service
Nov 10 th	10.30am	Rev Nick Collison	-- Remembrance Service
	6.30pm	Mr Mike Dernie	
Nov 17 th	10.30am	Rev Nick Collison	-- Pastoral Visitors Service
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison	-- Café Worship
Nov 24 th	10.30am	Mrs Margaret Marshall	
	6.30pm	Deacon Becky Lovatt	

Prayer Group

Our church Prayer Group meets every Monday morning from 9.30 - 10.0am.

Everyone is welcome.



Presently the group has ten members, but it would be lovely to add to our number.

There is no pressure to pray openly or lead in prayer in any way.

Pray in the silence, listen to the prayers of others or sit in the quietness and feel God's presence.

Please consider joining us.



TRINITY: STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES OF THE GENERAL FUND 2024

	ACTUAL 2024 £	FORECAST 2024 £	ACTUAL 2023 £	FORECAST 2025 £
<u>Income</u>				
Collections	48220	46500	46544	48000
Special Collections	2318	2000	2241	2000
Tax Refunds	12011	10000	16815	11500
Donation (hall redecorating)	1655	-	-	-
Donations (other)	1437	2000	6008	1500
Donations (new notice boards)	500	-	-	-
Use of Premises: -				
Church Organisations	950	1000	1300	600
Baxter URC	2510	2600	2080	2600
Other	29188	22000	25204	22000
Car Park hire fees	8450	10000	11560	8000
Weddings & Funerals	-	200	300	200
Sundries	1324	1000	1312	1300
Interest	3143	2000	2034	2500
Rent, Church Flat	6900	6600	6060	7800
Fundraising (hall redecoration)	198	-	-	-
Fundraising (other)	520	-	772	400
Easy Fundraising	67	70	70	60
District Grant	-	-	956	-
Total	119391	105970	123256	108460
<u>Expenses</u>				
Circuit Assessment	60000	60000	60000	60000
Allocated Collections & Donations	2793	2400	2729	2800
Photocopier	3024	3500	3179	3250
Office Costs	115	50	46	120
Electricity	3302	4000	3325	4750
Gas	2340	2500	2475	4900
Water	1536	900	879	1200
Insurance	3542	3750	3458	3750
General Repairs	10576	5000	6925	7000
New Equipment	-	-	6176	-
Custodian Costs	22949	23500	22148	24750
Church Flat	888	800	9700	850
Cleaning	1826	1800	1821	1900
Telephone & Broadband	734	700	634	800
Sundries	1506	1400	1326	1500
Junior Church	-	200	164	-
Roof Fund	-	-	1663	-
Total	115131	110500	126648	117570
Surplus/Deficit for year	4260	(4530)	(3392)	(9110)

Trinity Methodist Church

Commentary on Income & Expenses of the General Fund for 2023/2024

The overall result is a rather unexpected surplus of £4260, mainly for the following reasons :-

- Collections were £1700 more than expected and gift aid receipts £2000 more.
- Donations and fundraising for redecorating the hall amounted to £1853 and the cost of materials was £1203. The surplus will enable other areas to be done in due course.
- General fundraising raised £520 which was not budgeted for.
- Room- hire fees received from external groups were greater than expected at £29188. This source of income was boosted to the tune of £6300 by one particular group. Unfortunately, due to lack of funding, they have now ceased to meet.

Income from car parking is down because CMS Garage ceased trading at the start of the church year. The premises remain vacant and the loss to church funds exceeded £5000.

On the expenses side the £10576 cost of repairs and maintenance is worth a comment as it includes £4425 for refurbishing the floor in the hall and corridors. This work was unexpected and thus not in the budget.

On a note of caution, the amount payable for electricity & gas will increase by about 70% for each of the next three years. The previous three-year fixed price contracts started before the dramatic escalation in energy prices.

The following amounts were donated to good causes.

	Collected £	Grant £	Remitted £
Kemp Hospice	267	-	267
Action for Children	454	-	454
Israel/Palestine	493	-	493
Kidderminster Foodbank	279	-	279
Easter Offering	416	-	416
World Church	140	-	140
Methodist LWPT	269	100	369
Methodist Property Fund	-	175	175
Methodist Homes for Aged	-	100	100
Ministers' Housing Society	-	50	50
Support of Presbyters & Deacons	-	50	50
Totals	2318	475	2793

Also, a coffee morning for Christian Aid was held in May and raised £225. This was banked direct to Christian Aid.

**A VERY SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM:
DAVID, JENNY AND MARTHA KEELING**

As you are probably aware, Jenny and Martha spent last Christmas in Birmingham Women's Hospital. Martha had been born on 23rd December and was admitted to the Neo Natal Intensive Care Unit shortly afterwards low blood sugar. She also had treatment for jaundice.

The care we received at all stages from the moment we arrived for Jenny to be induced on 22nd, right up until finally we were allowed home a week later, was absolutely wonderful - we cannot praise the staff highly enough, nothing was too much.

We were also overwhelmed by the festive generosity shown towards mother and baby. All babies and mums received Christmas presents on Christmas morning and there was even a special visitor in red to the NICU.

To repay some of this generosity we are pleased to announce that the morning worship on:

December 1st will be a Toy Service.

We invite you all if you are able to purchase a toy (nothing too big or expensive) and ideally aimed at the under three years. At a point in the service you will be invited to bring them forward. These gifts will be donated to the Birmingham Women's Hospital so that they can offer the same kindness to all Mums and Babies who spend Christmas with them.

We look forward to sharing this special service with you all.



The Trinity Christmas Card Scheme

Christmas Greetings...

One Card: One Donation



The 'Trinity Christmas Card Scheme 2024' will operate again this year from late in November up to Christmas giving everyone the opportunity to pass on a seasonal greeting to all at Trinity with a simple...

**One Card:
One Donation!**
in aid of Kemp Hospice

...all in aid of KEMP
The Wyre Forest Hospice

- Place your Christmas Card in the folder on the display board in the Foyer with your donation in aid of **Kemp Hospice**.
- Your Christmas Card will be displayed on the board for you.
- During weekdays, please hand your card and donation to:
Stephen Howles (Custodian)

Pass on your seasonal greetings to all at Trinity, members, and visitors alike!...
...Plus, support Kemp Hospice too!

Thank you for your Support, John Harris

Trinity Tidings Covers 2025... ...your favourite photo featured!

We have decided to follow on again in with featuring **your** favourite photos on the front covers of Trinity Tidings. So, if you have a favourite photograph of a location or subject, it could be featured on one of the Front Covers of Trinity Tidings in 2025 and...

...your chance to be famous!

A favourite photo from a local beauty spot, park, countryside, or holiday location?...the choice is yours!

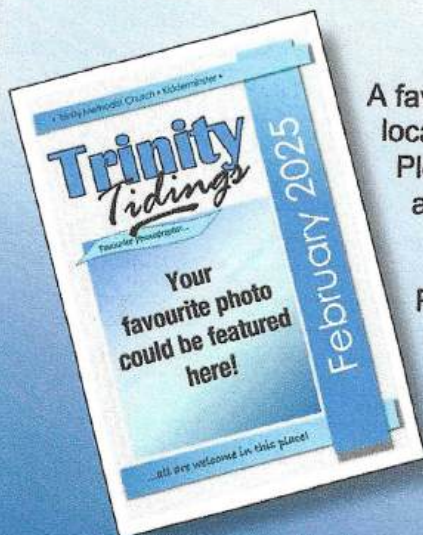
Please submit a short explanation of where the photo was taken, and why it is one of your 'favourite photographs'.

Photos can be supplied as a printed photo, which can be scanned, or photos can be emailed directly to:

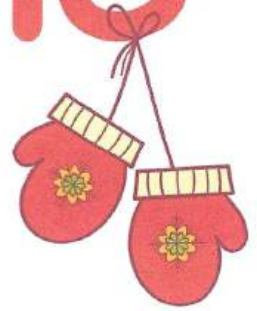
John Harris Email: john@johnharris15.plus.com

Thank you,

John Harris



CHRISTMAS MARKET



**SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER
10:00AM TO 1:00PM**

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
KIDDERMINSTER
DY10 2JL**

GROTTO CRAFTS GIFTS SMILES FOOD



COBON.SARAH@GMAIL.COM

Trinity Methodist Church

Christmas Concert



featuring

**Got2
Sing
Choir**

est. 2011

*An Evening of
Christmas Songs,
Old and New!*

**Saturday 21st December '24
at 7pm**

**Trinity Methodist Church
Churchfields Kidderminster DY10 2JL**

Admission by ticket

Available from the Church Stewards
Please make your donation at the door.



Adavu
Small Steps | Transforming Lives

All proceeds in aid of the Church Project
in support of 'ADAVU' and their work
against modern slavery within the local
West Midlands.

Thank you

QUIZ....

Do you know whether these Statements are TRUE or FALSE.

1. The Atlantic Ocean is the largest ocean in the world.
2. Canada has the most natural lakes in the world.
3. Egypt has the most pyramids.
4. The Nile flows through the Brazilian rain forest.
5. There are 54 countries on the continent of Africa.
6. India has the largest population in the world.
7. At school Albert Einstein failed most subjects except Physics and Mathematics.
8. AB Negative is the rarest type of human blood.
9. Mice have more bones than human beings.
10. The first product to have a Bar Code was chewing gum.
11. The left side is the starboard of a ship.
12. On the Jolly Roger flag there are 4 bones.
13. Marilyn Monroe's hair was naturally blonde.
14. Paul preached at Pentecost.
15. Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls.
16. Abraham was Lot's uncle.
17. John was rescued from prison by an angel.
18. Joseph had 12 brothers.
19. An angel was God's sign to Noah that he would not destroy the earth again.
20. John Wesley wrote over 6,500 hymns.

Concert



Saturday 14th December

2-4.30pm £8

Trinity Methodist Church,
Churchfields, Kidderminster

DY10 2JL



Tickets available through ticket
source, please scan QR code Or
contact Judy Morris
01562 751753



Tickets also available from Angela Millinchip

Telephone: 07584 028028.

EVERYONE SANG (Written soon after the Armistice)

Everyone suddenly burst out singing:
And I was filled with such delight
As prisoned birds must find in freedom
Winging wildly across the white
Orchards and dark green fields; on, on and out of sight.
Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted,
And beauty came like the setting sun,
My heart was shaken with tears, and horror
Drifted away.....O, but every one
Was a bird; and the song was wordless,
The singing will never be done.

Siegfried Sassoon

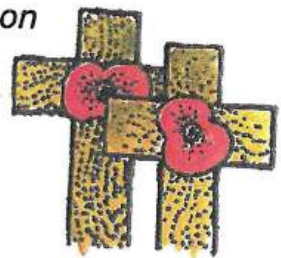


FUTILITY

Move him into the sun -
Gently its touch woke him once,
At home, whispering of fields unsown.
Always it woke him, even in France,
Until this morning and this snow.
If anything might rouse him now
The kind old sun will know

Think how it wakes the seeds, -
Woke, once, the clays of a cold star.
Are limbs, so dear-achieved, are sides,
Full-nerved-still warm-too hard to stir?
Was it for this the clay grew tall?
O what made fatuous sunbeams toil
To break earth's sleep at all?

Wilfred Owen

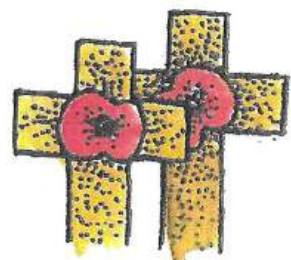


Waste

Waste of Muscle, waste of Brain,
Waste of Patience, waste of Pain,
Waste of Manhood, waste of Health,
Waste of Beauty, waste of Wealth,
Waste of Blood, waste of Tears,
Waste of Youth's most precious years,
Waste of ways the Saints have trod,
Waste of Glory, waste of God ---

War!

Geoffery Studdert Kennedy



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
From the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them.

Laurence Binyon

WEATHER AND GARDENING NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun; Conspiring with him how to load and bless with fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run. John Keats (1820)

There are many ideal subjects for producing a spectacular autumn display which are easily grown and widely available here in the UK. **Trees for smaller gardens** - Amelanchier AGM – orange and red, Cornus kousa var. chinensis AGM – orange and red, Prunus, such as P. sargentii AGM – bright orange and red, Sorbus 'Joseph Rock' – orange, red and purple. **Large trees** - Cercidiphyllum japonicum AGM – yellow, orange and pink; also curious smell of burnt sugar as leaves break down in autumn, Nyssa sylvatica AGM – brilliant red and yellow, Parrotia persica AGM – yellow, red and purple, Liquidambar styraciflua – brilliant reds and purples, long-lasting autumn colour. **Shrubs** with exciting autumn tints, Euonymus alatus AGM – rosy-crimson, Acer palmatum 'Osakazuki' AGM – brilliant orange-scarlet, Hamamelis – butter-yellow, Cotinus coggygia AGM – yellow, orange and red Berberis thunbergii AGM – red and orange, Enkianthus campanulatus AGM – bright red, orange and yellow. **Vigorous climbers**, Parthenocissus tricuspidata AGM – brilliant crimson and purple, Vitis coignetiae AGM – scarlet and crimson.

This 'final' month of autumn can be a busy time...Plant out bare-root or containerised deciduous roses, hedging plants, trees and shrubs, these can be heeled into the soil for a short period if ground conditions are not suitable for immediate planting, but don't leave them exposed situations or to drying out at any stage. This is also a good time to transplant trees and shrubs growing in unsuitable locations, however if they are more than a couple of years old best leave well.

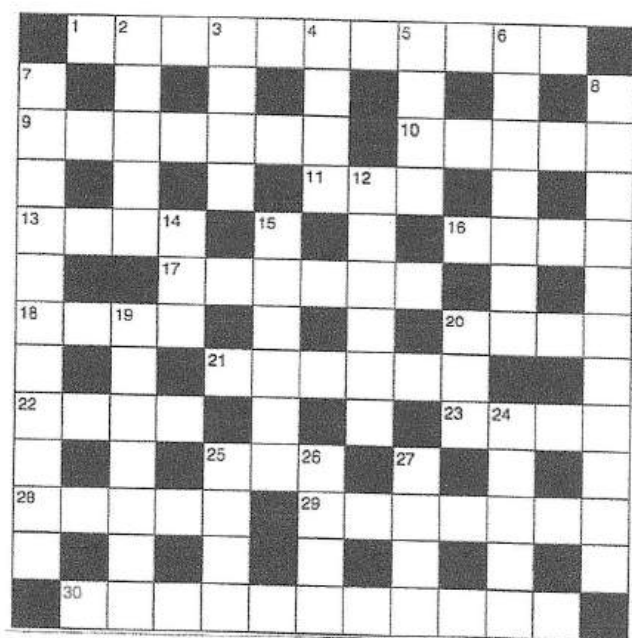
The pruning and or renovation of many deciduous trees, shrubs and hedges can be carried out from now throughout the dormant season once the sap is down, exceptions are tender plants and also Prunus species (e.g. ornamental cherries, plums and almonds), as these are vulnerable to silver leaf if pruned in the autumn or winter. Evergreens are best left now until the spring. Lightly prune bush roses now, if not done already, reducing their height now will reduce their vulnerability to wind-rock as roses are generally shallow rooted and can become loose in the soil if buffeted by strong winds. Climbing roses should have been pruned now. Shrubs normally pruned hard in the spring - such as Buddlejia davidii, Cornus alba and Lavatera - can be cut back by half now also to prevent wind rock and tidy their appearance. Tie wall shrubs and climbers onto their supports to protect them from wind damage with any growth that refuses to be trained in this way pruned away.

November is the optimum month to plant out tulip bulbs and to cut down or divide faded herbaceous perennials, although penstemons are best left unpruned until spring. Ornamental grasses / bamboos can be cut back now, lift and store dahlias, cannas and tuberous bedding begonias once hit by the first frosts. As a precaution raise patio containers onto feet or bricks to avoid them from sitting in the 'winter puddles'. Remove any stakes and other supports from late-flowering herbaceous plants as they die down for the winter. Tidy up leaves from around the borders, either adding these to the compost heap or even placed into punctured bin bags to breakdown over winter into leafmould. Dig over beds as the weather allows but don't work on them when it's very wet or heavy clay, as walking on sodden soil without a foot plank or board can cause compaction. Hoe borders regularly to keep weeds in check, digging up perennial weeds with long tap roots.

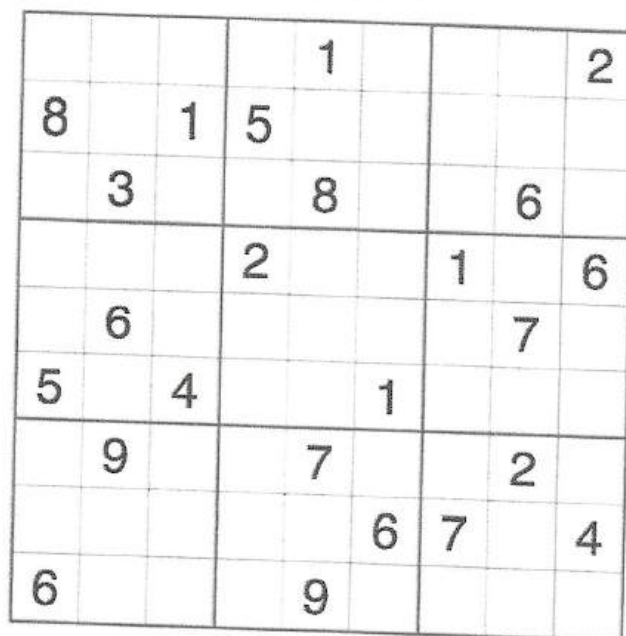
Enjoy your garden; it is the only one you've got!

Bob

Parish Pump Crossword



Sudoku Puzzle (Medium)



© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No —, impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always —, nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
- 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to —' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27 See 18 Across

LOST IN TRANSLATION

When we think of the Bible we think of it as a perfect book, a wonderful read, but it isn't. In fact, there are certain parts missing and if any of them should ever turn up it will need a re-write. It seems unlikely, but you never know what lays undiscovered in a cave somewhere. So how many parts are missing from the Bible? Well, there are a few we know of because they were mentioned.

Biggest culprits here are the books 1 & 2 of Chronicles, they managed to lose 5 records of events. We can't actually blame anybody because we don't actually know who wrote the books, although they are often attributed to Ezra but it was certainly written by prophets. So what's missing from Chronicles? Records of Nathan & Gad, records of Shemaiah and Iddo, records of the prophet Ahijah, records of Jehu, son of Hanani and Isaiah's story of the reign of Uzziah. Sadly we'll never know what part of history or the Old Testament they would tell us.

Next in line is the books of Kings and these could have been vital. Again the author of Kings is unknown, sad because this covers about 400 years of Israel's history. Probably written by prophets. Missing is the history of the Kings of Israel, History of the Kings of Judah and the Annals of Solomon. What reading and learning they would have been. Coming up next are missing parts from Samuel. The book of Jashar, but more important 1st Samuel 10:25 "The book of the rights and duties of the kings". Vital facts we'll never see.

How about the book of the Lords battles? It comes in Numbers 21:14. Lost forever, what it could have told us. Then there comes the 2 missing letters of Paul, first to Laodiceans (Colossians 4:16) and then in 1 Corinthians 5:9, a letter in which advice not to associate with sexually immoral people could have been interesting, but this letter to Corinth is missing. Don't blame the Royal Mail for this, perhaps they're still in the post! Perhaps the most interesting is Acts 20:35. Paul quotes Jesus as saying, "It is more blessed to give than to receive". It doesn't appear in any Gospel so where did it come from? Of course, in those days there were no computers, everything was written on scrolls.

The Bible was written in different times, the Old Testament between 1400BC and 530BC. The New Testament was written after Jesus's ascension to Heaven, say between 50AD and 150AD, and they weren't written in English. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew, the New Testament in Greek, so probably things were lost in translation. So who wrote it? Basically, written by followers of God of all domains who wanted to get a message out. So who wrote The Bible? Basically, it was written over 1500 years by followers of God. Most of the writers were writing for different reasons, but at the end of the day, the writers were all of one mind – God and Jesus. In fact, the Bible just looks like a collection of old stories, but it is one story, the story of God.

Thank heavens that one book of the Bible was never lost. That was the book of the Prophet Isaiah. He saw the vision of God's Glory and recorded it as so. It is no question of doubt. He promised to bring strength to the weary. It's no surprise that Jesus's most quotations came from the words of Isaiah. It survived. Just think if the Bible had been written today – one wrong press on the mouse and we'd have lost the lot. Let's face it, some parts might have got lost, but it's a damn good read.

Mike

(Mike Knott, Stourport Wesley).

Mike's Smile Lines

Richard: My secretary is a biblical secretary.
Robert: A Biblical secretary – What's that?
Richard: One who believes in filing things according to the Bible. Saying "Seek and you will find".

**

Personnel Manager: Can you do shorthand?
Girl: Yes, but it takes me longer.

**

I went into a butchers and asked for a yard of port. He gave me 3 pigs feet.

**

A landlord wrote to a tenant asking him if he wished to renew the lease of his flat. He wrote back briefly "Dear Sir, I remain yours faithfully.

**

Two blokes in a restaurant, they both order omelettes. One has a normal one, which is cheaper, the other has a Spanish. They are delivered but both look the same. "Excuse me", says one bloke to the waiter, "I paid extra for a Spanish omelette". "Oh! I'm sorry Sir", says the waiter, stamps his feet, snaps his fingers and says "Ole".

**

I heard our new Prime Minister, Keir Starmer, took his seat in the Houses of Parliament – but he was asked to give it back.

**

So long as you can laugh, you're still winning.

**

Teacher: What's $3 + 5$?
Pupil: 8
Teacher: Good.
Pupil: Good? It's perfect.

**

Last night I went to a concert given by The Bermuda Symphony Orchestra. They played the coconuts well, but the triangle kept on disappearing.

**

I went into the library and asked where the self-help section was. She wouldn't tell me. She said it would defeat the whole purpose.

**

Once the game is over, the King, Queen and the Pawn go back in the same box.

**

Why don't the Government just describe our finances as average? Worse than last year, better than next.

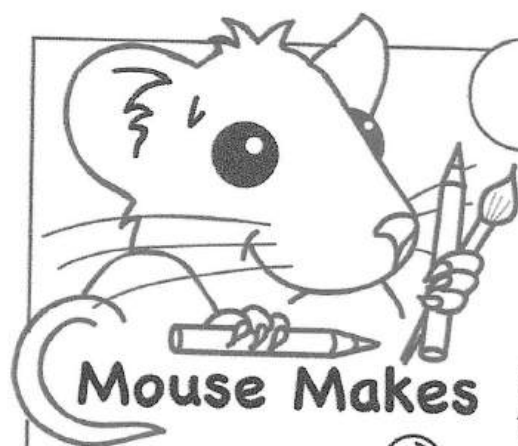
**

"Oh for the wings of a dove", but failing that, a chicken leg will do.

**

How does the man in the moon get a haircut? Eclipse it.





"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.
I have set you an example, that you should
do as I have done for you."*



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17



By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

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

JESUS
DISCIPLES
PASSOVER
FEAST • SUPPER • MEAL

PETER
SCRIPTURES
LORD • TEACHER
SERVANT • MASTER

GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE
CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

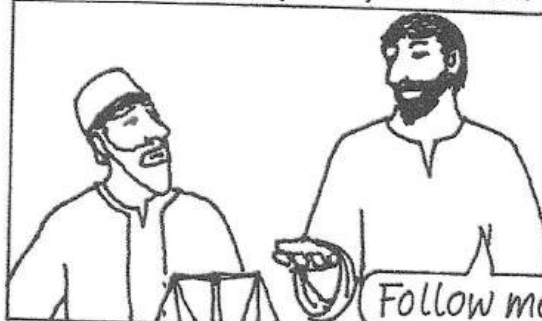
It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 9:9-13, Mk 2:13-15, Lk 5:27-32

The Roman invaders had given the job of collecting their taxes to local Jews who also overcharged, so they were doubly hated.



Matthew had his tax office by Lake Galilee.

Jesus walked past, and said

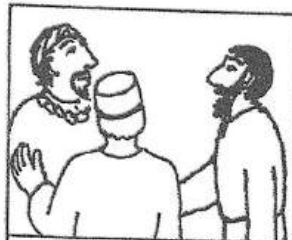


Follow me

Matthew left everything and went with Jesus.

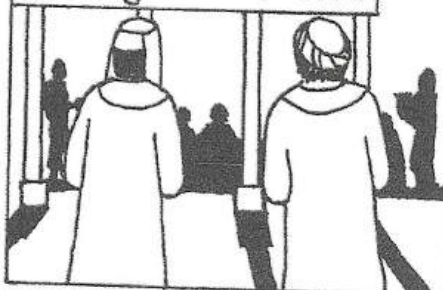


Matthew held a big feast and invited his friends so they could meet Jesus.



They were other tax collectors and bad people

The Pharisees saw Jesus eating with them.

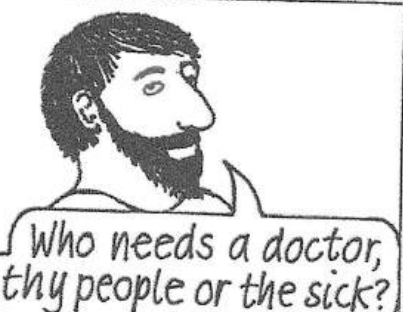


They grumbled to Jesus' disciples.



Why is your teacher eating with all those bad people?

Jesus heard them and said



Who needs a doctor, healthy people or the sick?

Try reading 'keeping rules doesn't make up for not having kindness.' *



*Hosea 6:6

Hosea was talking about people who looked like they were following God's rules but were bad inside.



I have come for the people who need my help.

10th November – The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil. We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'. And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

Parish Pump 2024

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers how things work.

The remarkable usefulness of Allen keys

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

We all need practical skills, and they are not always easily gained.

I seem to spend a lot of time assembling flat pack furniture of one type or another. The trick is to look and sound as though you know what you are doing, even though any skills are gained through trial and error. It is surprising how many household projects require an Allen key, which if you have not seen one, is an L shaped rod with a hexagon end which fits into an identical sized recess in the top of a screw. You can use the longer or shorter arm depending on the job needs extra force or speed.

The idea of a hexagon *socket* screw was probably thought of as early as the 1860s to 1890s, but such screws were not widely manufactured until around 1910. In 1909–1910, William G. Allen also patented a method of screw heads which had a *hexagonal* recessed die. The key that he lent his name to fits nicely into the head of the screw, is cheap and easy to use.

When you are called on to do some DIY, especially after someone has had a go, the best thing is to refer to the instructions and keep all your Allen keys together in one place so you can easily find them. They come in different sizes.

Bibles come in different sizes, languages, modern and old. They also fit into the hand nicely, are easy to use and contain life-saving instructions on how any and all of us should live.

Parish Pump 2024

What issues most concern us?

In a recent article for The Tablet, the international Roman Catholic newspaper, its lobby correspondent listed a number of things that seem to most concern the UK at the moment, and which therefore indicate the challenges facing the new Government.

She listed, in no particular order:

Breakdown of the justice system and overcrowding in prisons; social care and the NHS; planning and housing; defence in a troubled world; help for the poor and vulnerable and disabled; climate change; education; the asylum system and immigration; Brexit and its aftermat; the water industry; economic equality and the economy; and scandals of the Post Office, Windrush, Grenfell and the victims of contaminated blood.

As the New Testament instructs Christians to pray for their civic leaders, (1 Timothy 2:2), the list may be useful in guiding our own public and private prayers for the nation.

Parish Pump 2024

All in the month of November

It was

250 years ago, on 22 Nov 1774 that Robert Clive, 1st Baron Clive (Clive of India), died. He was the British general who helped found the British Empire in India.

150 years ago, on 23rd Nov 1874 that Thomas Hardy's novel *Far from the Madding Crowd* was published. It was his first major success.

100 years ago, on 2nd Nov 1924 that the first crossword puzzle to appear in a British newspaper was published in the Sunday Express.

Also 100 years ago, on 29th Nov 1924 that Giacomo Puccini, Italian composer, died. Known for his operas, including *La Boheme*, *Tosca* and *Madame Butterfly*.

90 years ago, on 30th Nov 1934 that the British steam locomotive, *Flying Scotsman*, became the first train officially to reach 100 mph.

70 years ago, on 3rd Nov 1954 that Henri Matisse died. This French artist was leader of the Fauvist movement and is seen as the most important French painter of the 20th century.

Also 70 years ago, on 13th Nov 1954 that the first Rugby League World Cup Final was held, in Paris, France. Great Britain beat France 16 – 12.

65 years ago, on 1st Nov 1959 that the first stretch of the M1 motorway opened in Britain. Britain's first motorway service station also opened at Watford Gap.

50 years ago, on 25th Nov 1974 that South African heart surgeon Dr Christian Barnard performed the world's first double heart transplant. The original heart was left in place and a donor heart was connected to it to support its workload.

40 years ago, on 25th Nov 1984 that 36 musicians gathered in London to record the Band Aid single *Do They Know It's Christmas* to raise money for famine relief in Ethiopia.

30 years ago, on 14th Nov 1994 that the first fare-paying passengers travelled through the Channel Tunnel linking England and France.

Also 30 years ago, on 19th Nov 1994 that Britain's first National Lottery draw was held.

25 years ago, on 29th Nov 1999 that the Northern Ireland Assembly appointed its first power sharing executive committee.

10 years ago, on 27th Nov 2014 that P D James, British novelist, died. Best known for her crime novels featuring the detective, Adam Dalgliesh.

Parish Pump 2024

The war of the cafés and the laptops

How do you regard your local café? As a place to meet your friends and catch up on the local news? Or as your office, where you do emails, hold Zoom meetings and work for hours – all for the price of a cappuccino?

It seems that across the country, local cafés are being invaded by laptop holding freeloaders who want to use their premises as free office space.

One café owner tells the story of a project manager who spends his morning in her café holding Zoom meetings in a very loud voice, and then paces the length of her café to discuss weekly sales targets on the phone, oblivious of other customers. "He is really focused on his meetings – he got furious when I finally said something."

Another café owner tells of several laptop workers who move into her café for the entire day, taking up tables for hours and hours, all for the price of one cup of coffee. "But we are a small independent business, so we need to keep those tables busy and turned around!" Still another has been told to keep her café quiet during the laptop users' Zoom meetings, and even to stop other customers from talking at all.

The café owners are united in saying that they welcome laptop workers as long as they spend money appropriate to the time they spend at the tables, and who do not stay for more than two hours. "Otherwise, there is no warm, bustling atmosphere. The place becomes silent like an office, with people intent over their computers. It is the kiss of death to our business."

I love quietness,

Because there comes a time

When the chattering of my voice

stops me hearing what I am saying.

Parish Pump 2024

I love quietness,

Because the comes a time

when the babble of my voice

stops me hearing what I am thinking.

I love quietness,

Because there comes a time

when the happy noise o human speech

stops me hearing the soft crying

of humans in pain.

I love quietness,

Because there comes a time

When the prattling of my voice

Stops me hearing what God is saying.

Smile Lines

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

**

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?" There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

**

A little girl was watching her daddy repair his tractor. She asked her mother, "What happens to old tractors when they finally stop working?"

Sighing, her mother answered: "Someone sells them to your father, dear."

**

My granddad always said, "When one door closes, another door opens." Lovely man. Terrible cabinet maker.

**

A priest was a Doctor of Divinity, and his wife was a doctor of medicine. A man called at the Rectory and asked if he could see "the Doctor". The housekeeper took one look at him and said ... "Which one do you want ... the preaching one or the practising one?"

**

A small boy returned from Sunday School in tears. When questioned by his mother for the reason of his distress he replied tearfully, "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam and I want to be an engine driver".

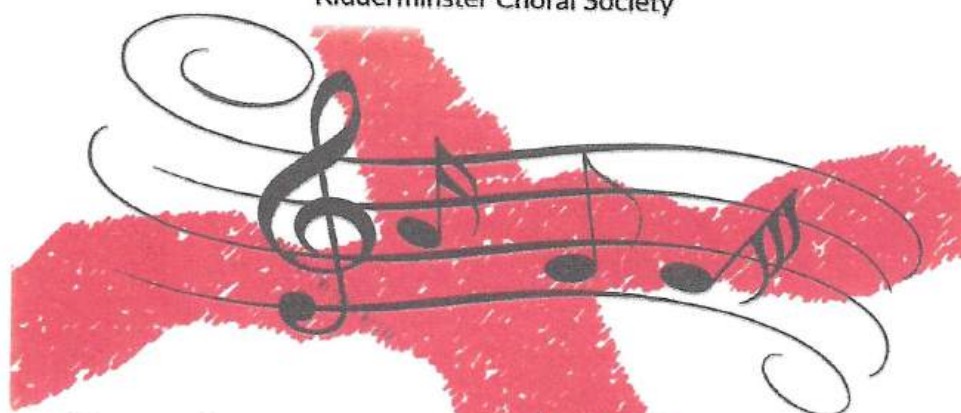
And a quote to make you smile!

"I wouldn't want to mislead you by doing other than saying however easy it would be for me to answer the question you have asked, it is not fair for me to go further than I have. And I would not read too much into that." – Ian McDonald, Ministry of Defence spokesman 1982



125 YEARS OF ENGLISH MUSIC

A concert to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of
Kidderminster Choral Society



Saturday 30th November 2024, 7.30pm

St Mary and All Saints' Church
Kidderminster DY10 2JN

Featuring Andrew Kennedy
Tenor Soloist and past prize winner at Cardiff Singer of the World
Kidderminster Choral Society and Wyre Forest Young Voices
Geoff Weaver Musical Director
Mike Elden & Alastair Moseley Piano
Paul Trepte Organ The Elgar Sinfonia

Supported by Wyre Forest District Council and
Kidderminster Town Council Community Events Grants



Online tickets from £14 (no booking fee)
On the door tickets from £16 Age 19 and under FREE
www.kidderminsterchoralsociety.co.uk



Answers to TRUE or FALSE, Crossword and Sudoku

1. False. The Pacific.
2. True. 879,800
3. False. Sudan
4. False. Egypt
5. True.
6. False. China
7. True.
8. True.
9. True. 225/231, human 206.
10. True.
11. False. It is port.
12. False. There are three bones.
13. False.
14. False. It was Peter.
15. True.
16. True.
17. False. It was Peter.
18. False. He had 11 brothers.
19. False. It was a rainbow.
20. False. It was Charles Wesley who wrote approx. 6,500

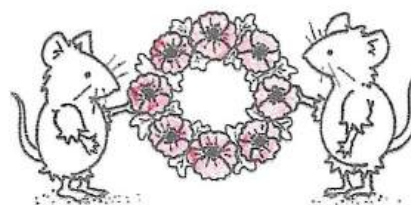
Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword answers:

ACROSS: 1, Charioteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entreat. 30, Chrysopraxe.

DOWN: 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.



TRINITY LUNCHEON CLUB

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

Every Wednesday at 12.15

Would you like a mid-week meal cooked for you with pleasant friendly company round the table?

Then why not come to our **Luncheon Club** – you don't have to be a church member or on your own, couples are welcome.

Enjoy a delicious main course and pudding with tea or coffee.

Only £3.50

Our main courses include:

Meat Loaf Salmon Flan Chicken Casserole

Corned Beef Flan Sausages

Ham and Pineapple Cheese and Bacon Flan

and our puddings (naughty but very nice):

Cheesecake Bakewell Tart Sponge Pudding

Fruit Crumble Sticky Toffee

Passion Pudding Bread & Butter Pudding

For more information or to book a place please contact
Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)



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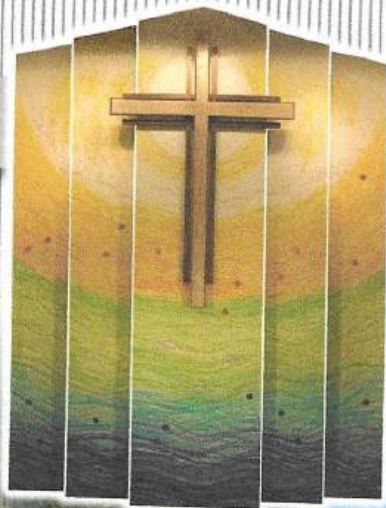
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Sunday Services

- Morning Worship at 10.30am
- Evening Worship at 6.30pm

Start the week...

Monday Morning Prayer Meeting

A short quiet time of contemplation and prayer.

Every Monday 9.30am – 10.am

Mid-Week Lunchtime Service at Trinity

Every Thursday 12.30pm – 1pm

Trinity Toddlers
Every Tuesday
9.45am – 11.15am

Contact:

Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503

Rev'd. Nick Collison - 01562 823300

Trinity
Luncheon Club
Every Wednesday
at 12.15pm

Co-ordinator:
Mrs. Jill Green

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL

Telephone: 07580 009755 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm)

www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

2024...2024...2024