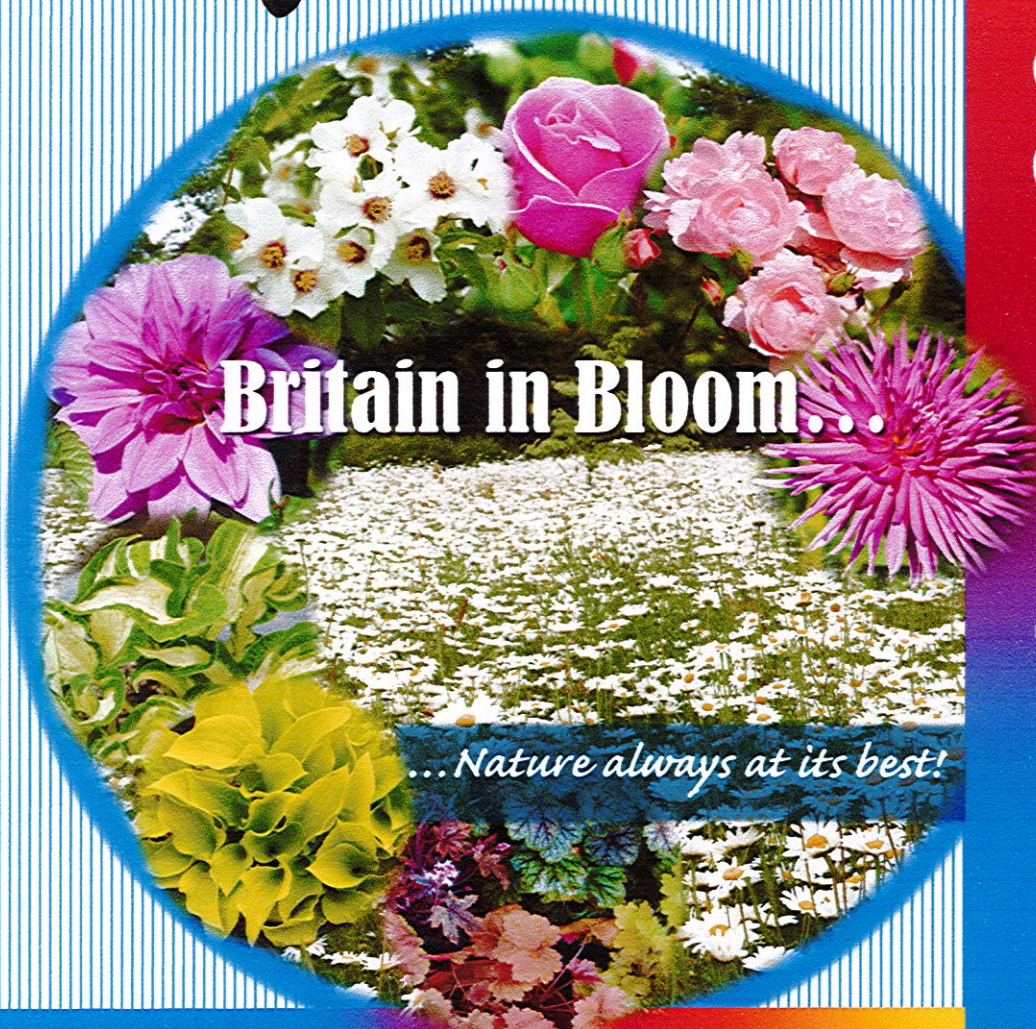


♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*



Britain in Bloom...

...Nature always at its best!

All are welcome in this place!

JUNE 2026

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

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Circuit Website: kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk

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Senior Stewards: Mrs Jan Smith 01562 631063
Mrs Sandra Baker 01562 850861

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The closing date for items for the July/August '26 Edition of Trinity Tidings is
Sunday 28th June 2026

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

Dear friends,

Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard as we have 'explored' who and where we are, and where God is calling us to be. It has been an intensive six months!

The Circuit Meeting on 11th May decided by a very clear majority to remain as a circuit on our own and not merge with a neighbouring circuit at this point in our life together. We agreed:

We worship God in Christ, with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength.

- **Heart** – We worship through unconditional love for all, even where that's difficult.
- **Mind** – We listen, learn, and grow as disciples together, in groups and on our own.
- **Soul** – We pray for one another, trusting God's gentle nudges, and forgiving mistakes.
- **Strength** – We live in healthy, balanced ways which enable us to be generous, and to care: for our planet, and those most in need.

We committed to these basic principles in the Circuit Service on 24th May which celebrated the transition from Explore, where we looked at who and where we are, to the journey of actually going somewhere, guided and empowered by the freedom of the Holy Spirit's grace.

The Vision Day on 18th April began to look at where we need to go, and certain things became clear:

- a. We want to support one another more; to share our strengths with one another.
- b. We would like to communicate more effectively within and between churches.
- c. Our focus on inclusion is one of our strengths; we look for support to understand how we might grow by listening to God, our community, and each other.

We heard how growing Churches have certain things in common: They

1. **Have a clear Mission & Purpose**
2. **Know & Serve their Community**
3. **Have an effective Welcome & Follow up**
4. **Have clear Discipleship Pathways**
5. **Have Transformational Leaders**
6. **Involve Everyone**
7. **Change and Adapt**
8. **Connect with the Young**



Each Church Council will want to look at how to grow in these different areas, according to their need, alongside the visions which have begun to form as an outcome of Explore ... and there are people on the District staff who are keen to help us, some of whom we have met

By 2nd June the Superintendency from September should be confirmed, and a date will be set for a service in the last week of August or the first week of September to formalise this.

Filling vacancies, support for property and finance officers, and grants, will all be considered by CLT, with proposals to Circuit Meeting later in the year.

At Circuit Meeting we thanked Lynn Jones, who decided to step down from the role of Circuit Administrator for her 80th birthday in May. Many congratulations, Lynn, and very many thanks for all you have done for the Circuit, often at short notice, supporting successive Superintendent Ministers, and guiding us through your impressive understanding of the Circuit. We wish you well ... and pray that you will find abundant blessings in the years ahead!

The visit of the President of Conference, hosted by the District Preachers at Trinity included workshops on intergenerational worship, Godly Play, Worship Leading and Preaching (now possible locally through bronze and silver routes, and soon to be replaced by a simpler course). More than eighty people filled Trinity, and all seemed to leave with a smile and heartfelt thanks.

Bible Month will be celebrated in September this year, with study groups as well as services looking at Philippians. Please continue to pray for the five people from around the Circuit who are nearing the end of their membership classes in June. If you would be interested in sharing in a study or fellowship group, or in leading one, please let me know.

Jenny Keeling, our Circuit Safeguarding Officer, is undertaking training this month and hopes then to be able to lead the Advanced courses as well as Foundation courses. Please hold her in your prayers this month. Ideally, we can then hold regular courses: Foundation in November, and Advanced in July each year (i.e. following appointments made in October and in the Spring). Please also pray for the Church Safeguarding Officers as we prepare for the year ahead.

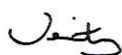
A Circuit service with Rev'd Novette Headley will be on Sunday 19th July at 10.30 before she 'sits down' (retires) in August. We thank her for her kind guidance and support throughout the past year while we considered our future, and wish her every joy in her ministry as a supernumerary.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of all who have been bereaved during May, each of whom will be known and remembered among their own congregation. May the peace of the risen Christ be known, who said, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

This letter is newsy in part due to all the hard work of the past eight or nine months. I would like to encourage us all to take time over the summer to relax; body, mind and spirit. To enjoy the gift of life which God has granted us, and experience restoration ... ready for whatever lies ahead of us in the autumn.

With my warmest greetings in Christ,

God bless,



Verity.



PRAYER CORNER

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



During the month of June, please remember in your prayers, the people and places, in the area of Kidderminster known as Spennells and Hoobrook.

<u>Spennells and Hoobrook</u>	<u>June</u>
Spennells Primary School and Nursery	
Heronspark Nursing Home	
Kidderminster Covenant Church	
Residential Housing	
Retail Units and Trading	
Small Businesses	



Dear Friends...

June – already! In the musical 'Carousel' there is a song "June is bustin out all over" and that is exactly what June is all about. Flowers are blooming, trees are almost in full leaf, plants growing well, and weeds galore. My garden is plagued with ground elder and bindweed so if you don't see me at church one week you will know that the bindweed has bound me to my crab apple tree and I can't get free! Most birds have hatched their brood, and some will lay another clutch of eggs. The swallows have been in and out of the down platform shelter, but no sign of the house martins. The blue tits are in and out of the bird box and were nesting again behind the water pump.

On the last weekend of June and the first weekend in July we have our 1940's weekends, but this year there is no 1940's wedding, so I don't get the chance to dress as a vicar in order to "marry" the unfortunate couple. It's a good job it is not legal.

There has been some filming on the railway recently, something for Silent Witness, and something for Peaky Blinders. A film company is coming to Arley Station to film some scenes for their next film. They are filming on two nights from 6.00pm until 6.00am, so they are paying for me to stay in a hotel for the two nights, unfortunately not at the seaside. It is a shame that I won't be appearing in in an Oscar winning film!



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OFFERTORIES FOR THE FOUR WEEKS TO 17th MAY ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
26.04.26 & 03.05.26	233.00	210.00	1608.05	2051.05
10.05.26 & 17.05.26	156.00	170.00	1405.60	1731.60

This is a weekly average of £945.66

For the current church year to 31st August 2026 it is estimated that offertories of £1100 per week will be required to break even.

Making Ends Meet

Thanks to donors to the Church registering for Gift Aid I have been able to claim a refund well in excess of £13,000. Unfortunately this is not a bonus extra but essential for making our ends meet.

If anyone would like further information or envelopes for offertory or Church Project please contact me.

Roger Smith.
Gift Aid and Envelope Secretary.

SUNDAY SERVICES

June 7 th	10.30am	Mrs Sue Stinton
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips
June 14 th	10.30am	Deacon Becky Lovatt
	6.30am	Rev Verity Phillips -- Café Worship
June 21 st	10.30am	Mr Mike Dernie
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
June 28 th	10.30am	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Mr Albert Wilkinson
July 5 th	10.30am	Mr Ray Simpson
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips

INSTALLATION OF THE BENCH AND GARDENING NEWS

On Easter Day it was a delight to officially 'open' the bench that has been installed in the Memorial Garden, and to unveil the plaque in memory of Baxter United Reformed Church - a small token to those who faithfully ministered and worshipped there, as they sought to build faith, hope, unity and love in the town. In uniting with us, Trinity has become a richer community and love has surely grown. Our thanks to Maureen Lewis for organising for the plaque to be made.



The bench itself was made by Richard Channing at the Wyre Community Land Trust, Bewdley.(info@wyreclt.org.uk) Our connection with the Land Trust came through Mac Wassell, who, together with his wife, Josie, joined our congregation in February 2025. Having been Salvation Army members in the past, they felt at home at Trinity and enjoyed the warm welcome they received. Mac responded to my plea, in the Notices, for gardeners, and when he heard that the Sanctuary Team were seeking to create a welcoming space, put us in touch with the Community Land Trust, at which he was a volunteer. He knew beautiful signs, benches, bug houses, etc. were made from oak from the section of the forest the group manages.



Mac himself made our Welcome sign and planter and the Community Garden sign, but became ill soon after this and has had long stays in three different hospitals. Sadly, he passed away on Tuesday 19th May, at home, with his family around him. Those of us on the Gardening Team miss his positive, problem solving attitude, his sense of humour, his practical skill and his gardening advice. However, we know that he is with the greatest Gardener there is, and we are so very grateful for the legacy he has left us.

There are now five of us that regularly garden, as part of the Warm/Welcome Space group, and we have sought to increase the amount of crops that we grow, in order to benefit the Community surrounding our

church and those garden, most of whom really miss the gardens they used to own. A big thank you to the Property Committee for allowing us to use the space at the back of church.

Working on the garden as a team always proves to be a joy, from which we gain a great deal of satisfaction, and many passers-by enjoy saying hello and having a chat. Please feel free to join us, or to donate excess plants, or do a spot of weeding at any time to suit you! We are very grateful that Mac and Josie's daughter, Alison, is keen to continue allowing us to have manure from her horse for our garden - the secret of the success of last year's crops!



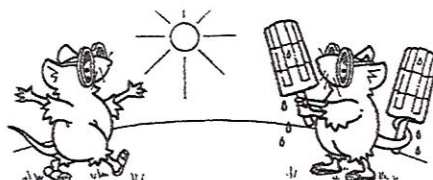
Hallow Challenge, Saturday July 11: 40 miles down to 10 miles

Stan Rose (94) is taking on the 10-mile challenge on behalf of Trinity Charity, 2026.

A little sponsorship will go a long way to swell the fund.

Thank you.

Stan



Bewdley Methodist Church

"Music in the Chapel"

Summer Concert

featuring



Soprano Millie Royle

Accompanied by pianist Toby Baker

Classic hits from opera and musical theatre

Saturday 4th July 2025 at 2.30 pm

Tickets £10 to include light refreshments

To book tickets please contact:

Neil Sollom Tel: 07780 650491 or email: neilsollom@btinternet.com
or Mike Dernie Tel: 07977 063380 or email: mikedernie@aol.com

www.bewdleymethodists.org.uk

This is a version of the Lord's Prayer which Mike Dornie used in a service a few years ago. I thought it is worth printing again.

Preparing to pray The Lord's Prayer....

I cannot say **OUR**, if I live only for myself.

I cannot say **FATHER**, if I do not endeavour each day to act like His child.

I cannot say **WHO ART IN HEAVEN**, if I am laying up no treasure there.

I cannot say **HALLOWED BE THY NAME**, if I am not striving for holiness.

I cannot say **THY KINGDOM COME**, if I am not doing all in my power to hasten that wonderful event.

I cannot say **THY WILL BE DONE**, if I am disobedient to His word.

I cannot say **ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN**, if I will not serve Him here and now.

I cannot say **GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD**, if I am dishonest or seeking things by subterfuge.

I cannot say **FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES** if I harbour a grudge against anyone.

I cannot say **LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION**, if I deliberately place myself in its path.

I cannot say **DELIVER US FROM EVIL**, if I do not put on the whole armour of God.

I cannot say **THINE IS THE KINGDOM**, if I do not give the King the loyalty due him from a faithful subject.

I cannot say **THE POWER**, if I fear what others may do.

I cannot say **THE GLORY**, if I am seeking honour only for myself.

I cannot say **FOREVER**, if the horizon of my life is bounded by the things of today.

And I cannot say **AMEN** –'so be it' – unless I put my trust in God to answer my prayer.

STAN'S QUIZ.

Find the Post-Code Towns eg. DY - Dudley – six letters

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. BA 4 | 11. LA 9 |
| 2. DH 6 | 12. EH 9 |
| 3. NR 6 | 13. LA 9 |
| 4. LN 7 | 14. LE 9 |
| 5. CH 7 | 15. GL 10 |
| 6. AB 8 | 16. NG 10 |
| 7. HR 8 | 17. BH 11 |
| 8. PL 8 | 18. CB 12 |
| 9. CV 8 | 19. HD 12 |
| 10. BB 9 | 20. PE 12 |

WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES.....

A young couple were being shown over a house in the country by a man from the village.

After returning home they decided to buy it but then remembered that they hadn't seen the toilet, so they wrote to the man asking where the W.C. might be. The villager not knowing what the term W.C. meant thought it must be the Wesleyan Chapel and he replied as follows:-

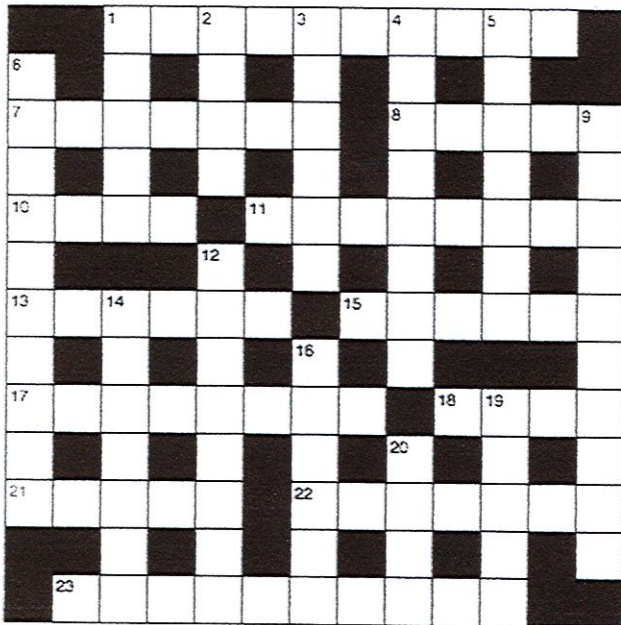
Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter I regret to inform you that the W.C. for this village is 10 miles away from the house. This is unfortunate if you are in the habit of going regularly. It is built to seat 500. Some walk and others take their lunch and make a day of it. They last time my wife went was ten years ago. Some people go by train and get there just in time. I had to stand the last time I went so now I never go at all. The committee have decided to fit plush seats in it to ensure greater comfort.

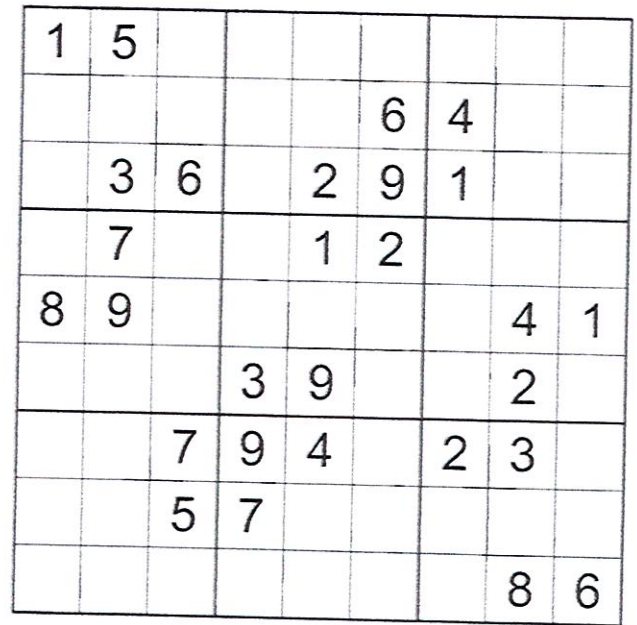
There is a minister who presides over those who go, giving any help needed. The children often sing during the proceedings.

Also when hymn sheets are required they will be found hanging on the back of the doors.

Parish Pump Crossword Clues



Sudoku Puzzle (Medium)



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Across

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

Down

- 1. 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
- 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)
- 14 Aceturn (anag.) (7)
- 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3)(6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)

On the Road with John Wesley

“The road is long with many a winding turn” so sang The Hollies, “That leads us to who knows where, who knows where”. A modern 60’s song but it could have been referring to 250 years before and the roads travelled by John Wesley (Pot-holes? Wesley spent half of his life in them).

Roads in Britain in the 1700’s were terrible, in fact there were no roads as we know them today. They were just cart tracks that linked villages and perhaps wider tracks linking big town with London. Most of Britain was open and wild country so how did John Wesley manage to get around? Simple, he walked. He knew the United Kingdom better than anyone alive at the time. He found that a 25-mile walk was an easy and safe journey any day, even in hot weather. He also made another discovery; he could read while he walked. He was no mean pedestrian. He once walked over 1,000 miles in a year to preach in churches around Oxford. He never lost his zeal for walking. However, he needed to travel further afield so he took up travelling on horseback. One day alone he travelled 90 miles. He could even read his books while riding. His brother Charles, also travelled the country making up hymns as he traversed the land.

He became familiar with the many discomforts of the road. His horses often fell lame or were injured by incompetent blacksmiths. He had quite a lot of accidents, falling off or being thrown on many occasions. He had a few lucky escapes. On one occasion he had a horse fall on top of him. He took many cuts and bruises and on one occasion he was actually rumoured to have been killed falling from a horse. He travelled over 100,000 miles on horseback but could scarcely remember any horse he rode. (Never Red Rum!).

After one bad fall in 1772, Wesley said” I have met several of my friends who have begun a subscription to prevent me riding on horseback, which I cannot do so well after some hurt. They raised money and bought him a carriage so Wesley’s life became easier than the long rides of former years. He could travel much further and was able to preach 3 or 4 time a day. Even so, he still had the occasional accident; a wheel would come off, and once the carriage tipped over. Often between big cities, Wesley would travel by stagecoach. He would even travel on the night mail coach. On these occasions he would be joined by strangers with whom he was able to converse and perhaps even convert them to Methodism. The many miles he travelled was the reason his religion spread nationwide.

It was surprising he had a long and fruitful life, what with accidents, wild animals, knaves, vagabonds and highwaymen roaming the country. How did he get to Stourport Wesley? Probably by horse and carriage, and remember, any one who has driven on Stourport Wesley’s car park and scraped their wing mirrors, it was meant for John Wesley on a horse, not a car.

Near to death he quoted “I have been wandering up and down for 50 or 60 years, endeavouring in my poor way to do a little good to my fellow creatures”. He certainly did.

Mike Knott, (Stourport Wesley)

Once again, we say thank you to you, Mike, for your articles and smile lines which arrive every month without fail. They are much appreciated.

Mike's Smile Lines – Schoolboy Howlers)

Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies who wrote in hydraulics.

**

The Greeks were lays people because hey worshipped idles.

**

The last book in the Bible is Epilogue.

**

Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the tabloids.

**

The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

**

The first thing the midwife does when the baby is born is cut the biblical cord.

**

Jesus walked along the road to Jerusalem with his 12 decibels.

**

The ferry sailed from Calais to New Heaven.

**

Because the Romans built good roads Christianity travelled faster than ever.

**

Genesis is a drink from Ireland.

**

Good Miss Murphy will follow me all the days of my life.

**

A few miscellaneous observations of life in mind from Parish Pump ...

Gentleman: one who holds the door open while his wife carries in the groceries.

**

The first half of our life is ruined by our parents and the second half by our children. – *C S Darrow*

**

Government expert: one who complicates simple things.

**

I burn about 2000 calories every time I put on fitted sheets by myself.

**

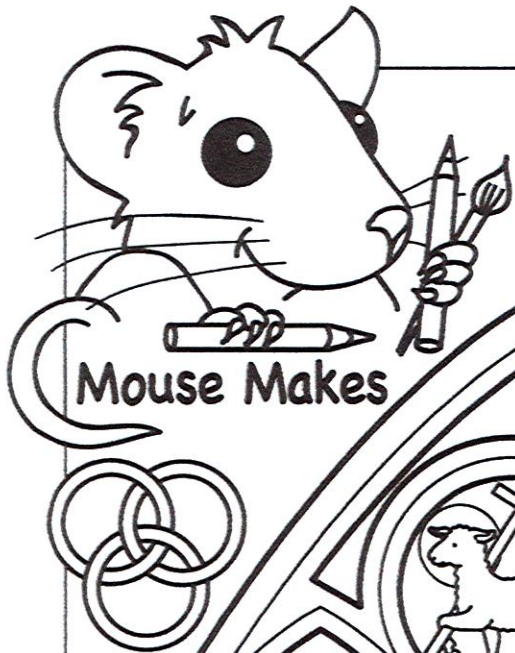
It's weird, being the same age as old people.

**

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

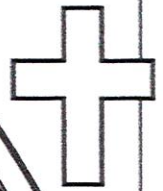
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You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?



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

2 Corinthians
 13:14



V	O	V
HIW	ISD	UDE
VENLR	JYIAM	TRUTH
SLAEP LG	ACGODJM	THAHSRI
HALDOOR	LROCKUA	OSPOWER
EMEWORD	MELORDJ	ULFLIFE
PBREADW	IABBAGE	POWYNDR
HLALPHA	GTDEBES	AWISDOM
EEMCGJY	HOYRFET	DBEPBVC
RMEHOEK	TRAHATY	VWTIREO
DMIRSST	YGHOIEF	OIEREFM
SAVIOUR	VSWLARA	CTRIAIF
PNESNSU	OHEYENT	ANNTTRO
OUNTLOT	JEHOVAH	TEACHER
MESSIAH	IKINGLE	ESLGIFT
RLGBFIS	SHIELDR	DSGUIDE
KEOMEGA	SAVIOUR	THELPER
JESUS • CHRIST	GOD • FATHER	HOLY SPIRIT
SON • SAVIOUR • LORD	ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH	GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS
EMMANUEL • MESSIAH	YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY	COMFORTER • GUIDE
SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY	HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR	ADVOCATE • WISDOM
TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR	ETERNAL • CREATOR	POWER • TRUTH • BREATH
BREAD • WORD • HEALER	KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE	LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE
VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA	SHIELD • ROCK • I AM	WIND • FIRE • TEACHER

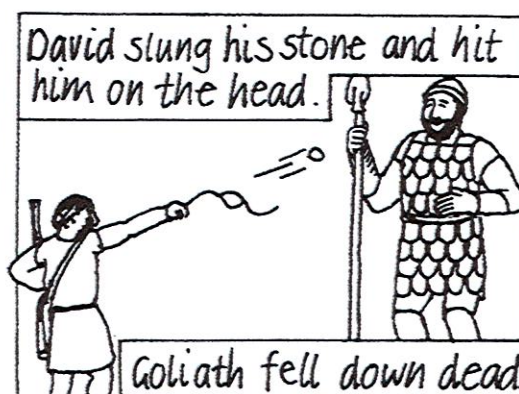
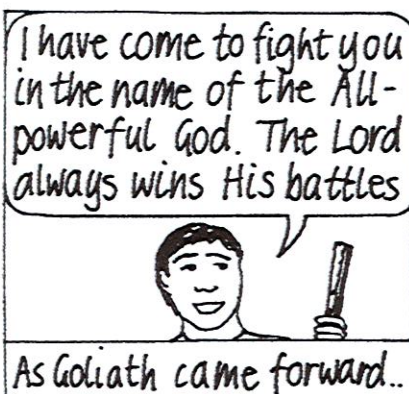
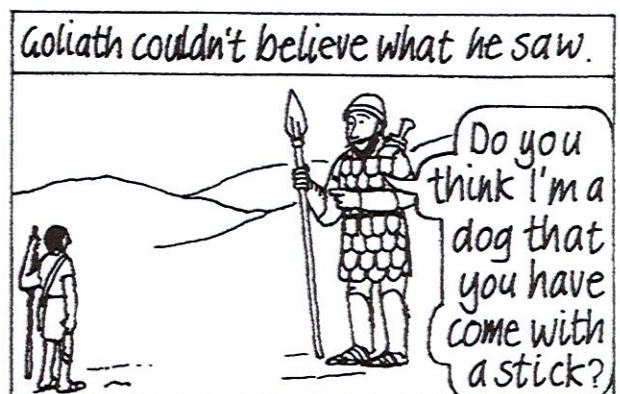
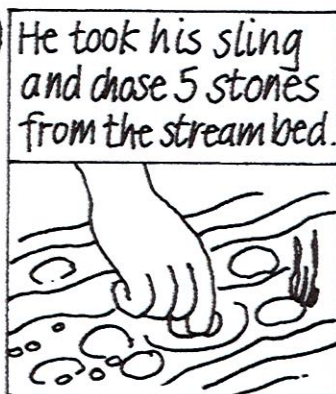
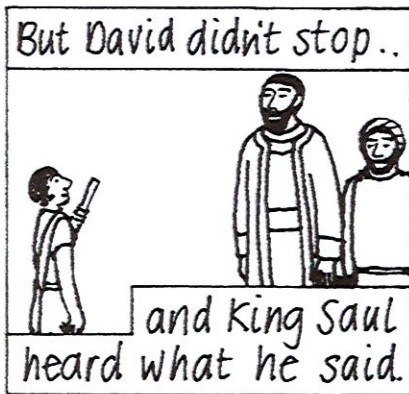
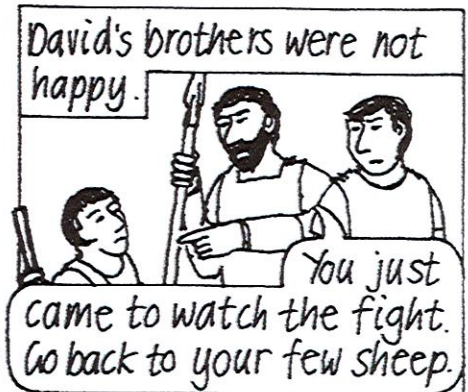
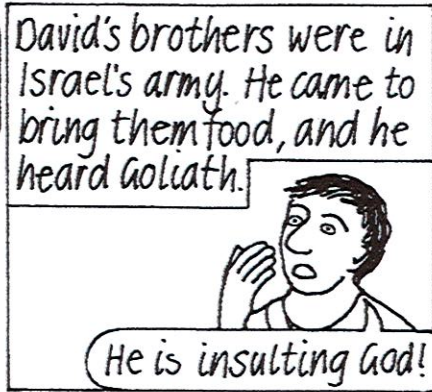


Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

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

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



60 years of Girl Choristers at St David's Cathedral

St David's Cathedral recently marked 60 years since girl choristers first sang in the Cathedral Choir with a celebratory evensong.

It was in April 1966 that the Cathedral Choir were busy preparing for a BBC radio broadcast of choral evensong, when in the days leading up to the recording, numerous boy choristers succumbed to a measles outbreak that was spreading through the local primary schools.

Facing the prospect of no choristers being well enough to perform, Organist and Master of the Choristers Peter Boorman approached music teacher Rosalyn Charles, and asked if the girls of Ysgol Dewi Sant school choir may be able to sing.

The school, Dean and Chapter all approved the emergency measure, and following a successful broadcast on 20th April 1966, chapter agreed in July 1966 that the girls were to become full choristers. Ever since, the soprano line in the Cathedral Choir has been sung by girls aged 8-18, drawn from St Davids and, more recently, further afield in Pembrokeshire. St David's Cathedral pioneered the concept of girls singing in cathedral choirs, decades before similar initiatives were launched in other cathedrals.

To celebrate this milestone, the Cathedral held a special evensong, with the Cathedral Choir joined by former choristers from the past 60 years.

Parish Pump 2026

Barnabas, Paul's first missionary companion

Would you have liked to go to Cyprus on holiday this year? If so, spare a thought for the Cypriot who played such a key role in the New Testament.

He was Joseph, a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite, who is first mentioned in Acts 4:36, when the Early Church was sharing a communal lifestyle. Joseph sold a field and gave the money to the apostles. His support so touched them that they gave him the nickname of Barnabas, 'Son of Encouragement'. Barnabas has two great claims to fame. Firstly, it was Barnabas who made the journey to go and fetch the converted Paul out of Tarsus, and persuade him to go with him to Antioch, where there were many new believers with no one to help them. For a year the two men ministered there, establishing a church. It was here that the believers were first called Christians.

It was also in Antioch (Acts 13) that the Holy Spirit led the church to 'set aside' Barnabas and Paul, and to send them out on the church's first ever 'missionary journey'. The Bible tells us that they went to Cyprus, and then travelled throughout the island. It was at Lystra that the locals mistook Barnabas for Zeus and Paul for Hermes, much to their dismay.

Much later, back in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Paul decided to part company. While Paul travelled on to Syria, Barnabas did what he could do best: return to Cyprus and continue to evangelise it. So, if you go to Cyprus and see churches, remember that Christianity on that beautiful island goes right back to Acts 13, when Barnabas and Paul first arrived.

In England there are 13 ancient church dedications and not a few modern ones. Barnabas the generous, the encourager, the apostle who loved his own people – no wonder he should be remembered with love.

Parish Pump 2026

Celebrating Fathers

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

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

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

The Father's presence

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

The Father's love

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

The Father's pleasure

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

Parish Pump 2026

Feed the birds – but thoughtfully

If you enjoy feeding the birds, you are not alone. Up to 60% of all households in the UK regularly feed their wild birds, according to surveys from UK Pet Food. It all adds up to an estimated £250 million in sales annually, with roughly 150,000 tonnes of seed being sold.

When feeding wild birds, here are five mistakes to avoid:

Not keeping the feeders clean. This can spread disease. The RSPB advises cleaning bird feeders once a week with a mild soap such as washing-up liquid. Do it outside, using brushes that you keep for this job alone.

Leaving too much food out. It attracts rodents. Instead, the RSPB advises that little and often is best. But keep an eye on those feeders and keep them topped up. When birds are nest-building and raising broods, they need a lot of energy. Feed peanuts in a rigid mesh feeder, so that large piece of nut cannot choke baby birds. Avoid putting out fat in hot weather – it can go rancid.

Feeding bread. This can lead to malnutrition. Bread is high in carbohydrates, while garden birds require a protein-rich and high-calorie diet. A chick with a stomach full of bread can freeze to death overnight. Ideally, feed a combination of mealworms, seeds, sunflower hearts, dried fruit, peanuts and fat.

Forgetting to provide water. Birds need to drink and bathe daily, especially in hot weather. Change the water every day and keep the basin clean.

Putting feeders in the wrong place. Place your feeders near to shrubs, trees and bushes, to provide cover. Blackbirds and robins are ground feeders, whereas tits and sparrows prefer to feed from hanging stations. Using an array of feeders will attract a wide range of birds.

Parish Pump 2026

Our British bumblebees

Did you know we have about 270 kinds of bee in the UK, including 24 types of bumblebees? Here are just six of them:

Early Bumblebee: – Found throughout the UK. Rather small, with distinctive lemon-yellow bands on thorax and abdomen, and an orange tail. An important pollinator of our soft fruit.

Common Carder Bee: – One of our most common bees, and often still feeding in November. Fluffy, brown and orange, with sometimes darker bands on the abdomen.

Tree Bumblebee: – Found in England and Wales, and recently Southern Scotland. A fuzzy bee, with brown-orange hairs on its thorax, a black abdomen, and a white tail.

Red-tailed Bumblebee: – The female is very large, with a big red ‘tail’, while males are smaller.

Garden Bumblebee: – A scruffy-looking large bee, with a long tongue and face. It has yellow bands at the collar, rear of the thorax and at the first segment of the abdomen, and the tip of the tail is white.

Buff-tailed bumblebee: – The biggest of our bumblebees, with a yellow collar near the head and another on the abdomen. The queen has a buff-coloured ‘tail’, while the workers have white ‘tails’ and black hair on their faces.

Be kind to our bees. They are in steady decline across the UK.

Parish Pump 2026

Best and worst breakfasts for your cholesterol

Numerous studies suggest that if you miss breakfast, you can risk elevated cholesterol levels. On the other hand, eating breakfast each morning can help improve your cardiovascular health.

But what is the best sort of thing to eat at breakfast? Healthy fat and fibre will help you avoid excessive peaks and dips in glucose, and they can also set up your metabolism for the rest of the day. So –

Cereal: Avoid sugary cereals, as highly refined cereals contain little fibre, and high sugar content can cause insulin resistance, and promote an unhealthy lipid profile. Choose porridge instead.

Toast toppings: Avoid bacon, which is high in saturated fat and sodium. Choose smoked salmon or smashed avocado.

Eggs: Avoid the Full English, which is high in saturated fats. Choose an omelette with healthy fillings such as mushrooms and tomatoes.

Bread: Avoid the refined flour in white bread, croissants and pastries. Choose higher fibre varieties of bread.

Fruit: Avoid juice, which has very little fibre and a lot of fructose. Choose instead whole fruit.

Parish Pump 2026

All in the month of JUNE

It was:

250 years ago, on 11 June 1776 that the Second Continental Congress appointed John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert R Livingston and Roger Sherman to create the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.

100 years ago, on 1st June 1926 that the American film actress, model and sex symbol Marilyn Monroe was born. Remembered for *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, *The Seven Year Itch*, and *Some Like it Hot*, among others. Died 1962.

80 years ago, on 8th June 1946 that the London Victory Celebrations following WW2 took place. Allied forces paraded through London, cheered by crowds that stretched from Buckingham Palace to Regent's Park. Countrywide, an estimated 12 million people joined in various celebrations.

65 years ago, from 4th June to 9th November, that the Berlin Crisis of 1961 took place. It led to Berlin being partitioned into East Berlin and West Berlin, and the erection of the Berlin Wall on 13th August.

50 years ago, from 23rd June to 27th August, the 1976 British Isles Heat Wave took place. One of the hottest and driest summers on record, it dried up rivers and evaporated reservoirs. Domestic water supplies were rationed, and public standpipes were installed in some areas. September and October both saw very heavy rainfall.

40 years ago, on 22nd June 1986 that the 'Hand of God' goal took place during the quarter-final of the 1986 FIFA World Cup in Mexico City. Argentine football player Diego Maradona scored a goal against England using his hand, which the referee mistakenly thought was his head, and allowed the goal. England was knocked out of the World Cup as a result, and Argentina won it.

30 years ago, on 4th June 1996 that the Second Severn Crossing was officially opened. The bridge spans the River Severn and links England and Wales via the M4 motorway.

20 years ago, on 18th June 2006 that American bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori became the first woman to be elected as a primate in the Anglican Communion. She became the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church from November 2006 until 2015.

10 years ago, on 3rd June 2016 that Muhammad Ali, American world heavyweight boxer, died. He was regarded as the greatest heavyweight boxer of all time.

Also 10 years ago, on 16th June 2016 that Jo Cox, Labour MP for Batley and Spen, was murdered by a far-right extremist. She was 41.

Also 10 years ago, on 23rd June 2016 that the UK European Union (EU) membership referendum was held. 52 per cent of voters voted to leave the EU, and 48 per cent voted to remain. The UK left the EU on 31st January 2020.

Parish Pump 2026

BBC Proms will still celebrate the US – despite Donald Trump's lawsuit

The BBC will mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with a programme of American classical music this summer.

That is while Donald Trump pursues his multi-million lawsuit against the corporation.

But he is not the only thing that is making the BBC uneasy. BBC insiders are also wary of the shifting political situation between the US and Iran, which could make the Proms concerts at the Royal Albert Hall a target for anti-war demonstrations.

However, the concerts will still go on to showcase the music of famous US composers, including George Gershwin, Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein. American conductors will even lead several of the shows.

Sam Jackson, the BBC Radio 3 controller, said: “The 250th anniversary of American independence is a major moment in world history. We live in uncertain times, but our current geopolitical situation should not lead us to ‘cancel’ great music, or to deny licence fee payers the opportunity to hear repertoire of both the past and the present.”

The Proms will launch with the First Night on 17th July.

Parish Pump 2026

Parish Pump Smile Lines

The evangelist Billy Graham told of a time early in his ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to post a letter before the service that evening, he asked a young boy in the street where the post office was.

When the boy had told him, Dr Graham thanked him and said, “If you’ll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven.”

The boy replied, “How can you do that? You don’t even know your way to the post office.”

**

A minister told his congregation, “Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17.”

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, “Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying.”

**

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could go to church. As she ran, she prayed, “*Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late! Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late!*”

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her dress dirty. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, “*Dear Lord, please don’t let me be late...But please don’t shove me again, either!*”

**

Three boys in the schoolyard were bragging about their fathers. The first boy said, “My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a poem, they give him £50.”

The second boy said, “That’s nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a song, they give him £100.”

The third boy said, “I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!”

**

I love flying. I’ve been to almost as many places as my luggage.

**

The little boy was saying his go-to-bed prayers in a very low voice. “I can’t hear you, dear,” his mother whispered.

“Wasn’t talking to you,” said the small one firmly.



ANSWERS TO STAN'S QUIZ

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Bath | 11. Lancaster |
| 2. Durham | 12. Edinburgh |
| 3. Norwich | 13. Lancaster |
| 4. Lincoln | 14. Leicester |
| 5. Chester | 15. Gloucester |
| 6. Aberdeen | 16. Nottingham |
| 7. Hereford | 17. Bournemouth |
| 8. Plymouth | 18. Cambridge |
| 9. Coventry | 19. Huddersfield |
| 10. Blackburn | 20. Peterborough |

Crossword answers:

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

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

Sudoku solution:

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



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)



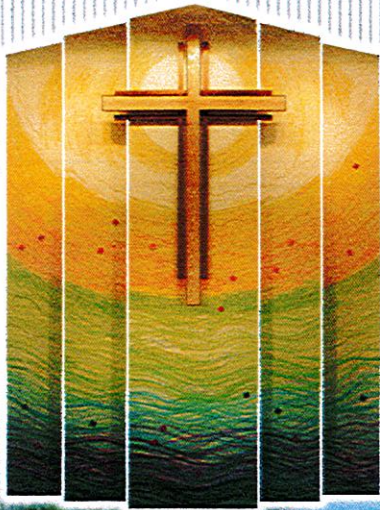
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◆ Trinity Methodist Church ◆



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
10am – 11.30am

Contact:
Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503
Rev'd. Verity Phillips - 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)

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