

♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*



Lest we forget!

All are welcome in this place!...

November 2025



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

Church Website: www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

Circuit Website: kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk

Minister: Rev'd. Verity Phillips 01562 823300

Senior Stewards: Mr John Bacon 01562 744502

Mr Donald McPhail 01562 750175

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Bookings: Mr Stephen Howles 07580 009755

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Trinity Tidings Editorial Team:

Mr David Skitt 01299 401047

Mrs Joan Davies 01562 740429

The closing date for items for the Dec '25/Jan '26 Edition of Trinity Tidings is

Sunday 23rd November 2025

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

Thanks to John Harris for Designing the Front cover each month.

Front Cover Photograph:



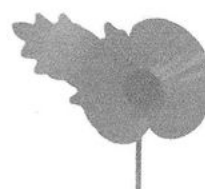
Photograph by David Skitt

'Three British Soldiers Landed on Gold Beach'

'D-Day' 6th June 1944

The monument shows three British soldiers on D-Day 1944. The statue is the centre piece at the D-Day British Memorial above Gold Beach, which is a most impressive place. There is no roof, so it is open to the same sky under which the invasion took place.

David Skitt



'Lest We Forget'

Dear Friends,

As the trees lose their leaves and autumn takes a hold, a wide variety of 'change' thoughts fill my mind. November is a time of remembrance: All Saints, and Remembrance Day are times when individual grief is shared together, as also in Stourport's moving Wave of Light service. I recall Aberfan especially as the leaves change colour, having served there. For some of us it's also a time when personal griefs emerge.

How people mourn varies, and every bereavement affects us uniquely because every relationship is unique. This is profoundly true with people; it is also true of places and situations. We may see on screens people grieving not only people they love, but also the loss of their homes, livelihoods, and communities. We may recognise something similar in the faces of people we pass in the street who have experienced similar losses. A kind of grief occurs when we move, or with a change of role, even when an organisation or group moves on and things are done differently. Whether grief is traumatic or minimal, there is always a need for gentleness and kindness ... with ourselves and each other.

We have just completed our whistle-stop tour through John's Gospel, one third of which describes just one week in Jesus life, drawing out the meaning of it, and how it connects to the rest of the Bible, and themes which flow through John such as "In the beginning was the Word ...". Working out the meaning enables us to make sense of grief and losses, and to integrate even the most challenging of experiences within our lives. When the Word became flesh, did God grieve? How does God's heart break over all the sorrow in the world? This is the God whose Light shines, and is not overcome by Darkness. The God whose Light gives Abundant Life. Living in the light of the Truth of Jesus affords a reliable hope through the gift of a Holy Spirit, the breath of life itself, as our union with God and each other in Christ is deepened. Recognising similarities between the experiences of Jesus and our own, and letting him carry us when we need that, affords patterns and reassurances which can help us make sense of things better than any trite or hackneyed sayings.

Over the next few months, we will be exploring our identity as a Circuit and recognising who we are, where we are, and whose we are, so that we can identify what we need in order to flourish as a circuit, and for this to be recognised, integrated, and supported by people beyond the circuit who don't already know what may seem obvious. Your voice (or words) will be crucial to this process – as we look to the future of who we mean to be together, and how God's revealing light might give life to our hopes. Look out for more information following the Open Circuit Meeting on 3rd November.

Thank you for all you do to support and encourage one another, and to be there for others. As you gently receive from Christ all that you need to be the people God calls you to be, may this be a month in which the beauty of fallen leaves integrates joy into the soil of who you are even as you go through the darker days of winter ahead, to reach the joy of abundant life in the newness of Spring.

God bless,

Verity.

**Advanced Safeguarding Course at Trinity on Saturday 29th November 2025,
9.30 am to 3.45 p.m. - bring a packed lunch.**

All who have completed the Foundation Training (any date) are welcome to attend and renew their safeguarding training at this event. If you have not completed Foundation Training and need to attend for your role, please contact Verity or Jenny (proposed Circuit Safeguarding Officer) urgently and we will see what could be done to train you before 29th.

To sign up to the course on Eventbrite, follow this link:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-safeguarding-training-trinity-methodist-church-kidderminster-tickets-1829340319139?aff=oddtcreator>

If you are unable to do this, ask someone who can, or ask Jenny or Verity to sign you up. This ensures enough materials are provided, and that your certificate is correctly named.

PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Betty Norman, Josephine and Ranzi Seremwe, Maureen Homer, Anne Wix, 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.



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

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



Celia Phillips 1950—2025

Alan Phillips would like to thank everyone for the donations made at Celia's funeral service.

The total amount raised for Air Ambulance was a wonderful total of £1340

From the Editor....

Dear Friends,

Having most of the day sitting getting this edition of Tidings ready I decided at 5.15 to get a bit of fresh air and go for a walk. The day had been dull and drizzly until the afternoon then the clouds cleared and the and the day became brighter. As I walked along the lane I realised that Autumn was really upon us. The other day when it was windy, the leaves began to fall and were being blown about as if they were having a late summer dance. On my walk I would stop and lean on the gate and talk to the sheep. They took absolutely no notice! There were some strands of high cloud being lit up by the sun, which by now sunk below the horizon. Everything was calm, peaceful and quiet, and I thought of Louis Armstrong's song 'What a wonderful world'....

I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed day – the dark sacred night
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world.

And it is a wonderful world but how sad that for millions of people it is not wonderful at all. There are millions of people who live in fear, and are threatened with bombs, guns and knives. Millions who have too little to eat, and live miles from a hospital, and so many who have to live under an evil regime. I hope and pray that for them peace may come, and they can find that it is a wonderful world.

Next Time I walk and lean on the gate I'll ask the sheep what they think. They would probably think I was quite mad!

David



PS....You may remember last year that I asked if anyone had newspaper they want to dispose of I would gladly have it, so I am asking you again. As the days get colder there are several fires lit at the station, including my house. Thank you in advance.

OFFERTORIES FOR THE THREE WEEKS TO 19th OCTOBER ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
05.10.25	50.00	165.00	854.00	1069.00
12.10 & 19.10.25	274.00	235.30	1708.00	2217.30

This is a weekly average of £1095.43

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

Church Project

For the past three years we have been supporting Adavu, a Birmingham based charity with Methodist connections that supports survivors of modern slavery. During that period we have donated a total of £5797 to Adavu and a letter of thanks from Reverend Ian Howarth, Chair of Trustees is published on the following page.

With effect from 1st September 2025 we have adopted Kidderminster and Worcestershire Prostate Cancer Support, based in Kidderminster, as our project. Would anyone wishing to donate to this worthy cause please speak to a church steward or Iestyn Davies, Church Treasurer. Thank you.

Finance: The Church General Fund

The following pages contain the account of the General Fund and commentary for the year ended 31st August 2025. This is the fund for the day-to-day running of Trinity.

SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

Nov 2 nd	10.30am	Mr Albert Wilkinson
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- All Saints Service
Nov 9 th	10.30am	Mrs Sue Stinton -- Remembrance Sunday
	6.30pm	Mr David Skitt
Nov 16 th	10.30am	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Rev Verity Phillips -- Café Worship
Nov 23 rd	10.30am	Dr Ken Mothersdale
	6.30pm	Mrs Sue Stinton
Nov 30 th	10.30am	Rev James Hamilton
	6.30pm	Deacon Becky Lovatt

THURSDAY SERVICES all at 12.30pm

Nov 6 th	Deacon Becky Lovatt
Nov 16 th	Rev Verity Phillips -- Holy Communion
Nov 20 th	Rev Suzanne Newton
Nov 27 th	Mr Mike Dernie

TRINITY: STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENSES OF THE GENERA FUND 2025

	ACTUAL 2025 £	FORECAST 2025 £	ACTUAL 2024 £	FORECAST 2026 £
<u>Income</u>				
Collections	51956	48000	48220	53000
Special Collections	1896	2000	2318	2000
Tax Refunds	12198	11500	12011	12500
Donation (hall redecorating)	-	-	1655	-
Donations (other)	3786	1500	1437	2000
Donations (new notice boards)	-	-	500	-
Use of Premises: -				
Church Organisations	990	600	950	700
Other	28297	22000	29188	28000
Car Park hire fees	8025	8000	8450	7800
Baxter URC Donations	3850	2600	2510	-
Weddings & Funerals	207	200	-	200
Sundries	1114	1300	1324	1000
Interest	3089	2500	3143	3000
Rent, Church Flat	7890	7800	6900	8200
Fundraising (hall redecoration)	-	-	198	-
Fundraising (other)	504	400	520	-
Easy Fundraising	40	60	67	40
Total	123842	108460	119391	118440
<u>Expenses</u>				
Circuit Assessment	60000	60000	60000	60000
Allocated Collections &				
Donations	2371	2800	2793	2475
Photocopier	3497	3250	3024	3400
Office Costs	117	120	115	120
Electricity	4491	4750	3302	4500
Gas	3536	4900	2340	3600
Water	1945	1200	1536	2000
Insurance	3647	3750	3542	3800
General Repairs	6161	7000	10576	7000
Custodian Costs	25026	24750	22949	26500
Church Flat	713	850	888	750
Cleaning	1831	1900	1826	1850
Telephone & Broadband	947	800	734	1000
CCLI (copyright)	510	500	445	525
Sundries	1420	1000	1061	1475
Total	116212	117570	115131	118995
Surplus/Deficit for year	7630	(9110)	4260	(555)



Trinity Methodist Church

Commentary on Income & Expenses of the General Fund for Year Ended 31 August 2025

The overall result is a surplus of £7630. This is at considerable variance with the forecast for the year but it is at least on the right side.

Collections and donations recorded the biggest gains, coming mainly from our fellow worshippers from Baxter URC. Rent from the church flat increased in line with current domestic rental trends. Baxter URC Church increased its donations which included a generous amount toward the printing costs of Trinity Tidings and the weekly notice sheet.

Expenses increased by a fairly modest amount overall, the main reason being a substantial reduction in general repairs. Gas and electricity were more expensive because this was the first year on new contracts at current prices, the former contracts being agreed before the spike in energy costs.

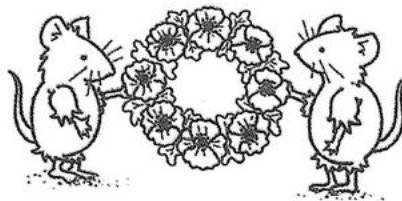
The cost of water continued to rise, as expected.

The increase in custodian costs was due to compliance with the minimum wage legislation.

The following amounts were donated to Good Causes.

	Collected £	Grant £	Remitted £
Action for Children	400	-	400
Kemp Hospice	347	-	347
Kidderminster Food Bank	91	-	91
Water Aid	257	-	257
Easter Offering	489	-	489
RNID (Sight Concern)	50	-	50
World Church	192	-	192
Methodist LWPT	70	100	170
Methodist Property Fund	-	175	175
Methodist Homes for the Aged	-	100	100
Ministers' Housing Society	-	50	50
Support of Presbyters & Deacons	-	50	50
Totals	1896	475	2371

In addition to the amounts above, £520.60 was raised for Christian Aid and paid direct to their bank account.



t: 0121 647 1960 (ask for Adavu)
e: info@adavu.org.uk
w: www.adavu.org.uk

Twitter: @AdavuProject
Facebook: AdavuProject



15th October 2025

Rev Ian Howarth
Chair of Trustees

ian@adavu.org.uk

Dear Iestyn,

Thank you very much for the continued support of Adavu from Trinity.

We were very grateful to receive your donations. Please pass on our thanks to the wider church.

I am sorry for the delay in responding, as we are currently without a director, and some things are taking a bit longer than usual, as we ensure that the front line work in supporting survivors of modern slavery continues and develops. This past year we have dealt with over 80 clients, providing them with support as they seek to rebuild their lives after suffering a variety of traumatic experiences.

We are so grateful for the support we receive that allows this vital work to continue,

Every blessing

Ian

Adavu CIO is a registered charity in England and Wales (no. 1199391)

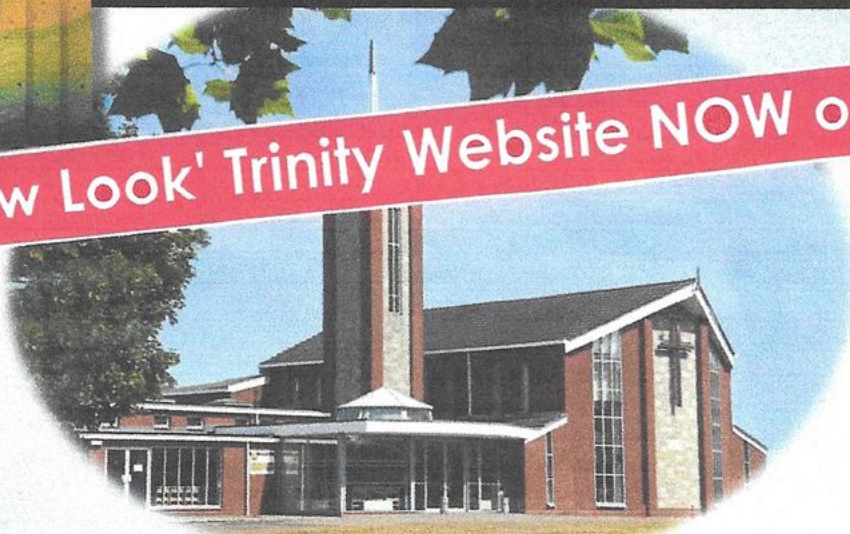
Registered Address: Jericho Building, 196-198 Edward Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, B12 9LX





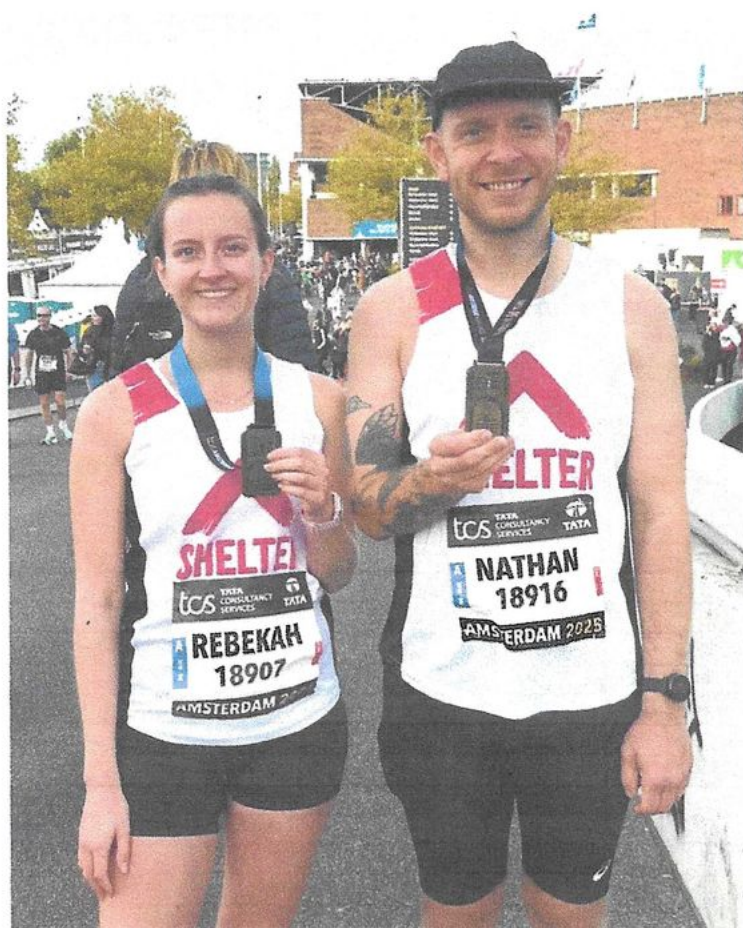
Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

'New Look' Trinity Website NOW online!



Please take time to view the 'New Look' Trinity website at:
www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk
for news, general information, services, events and 'Life at Trinity'

AMSTERDAM MARATHON

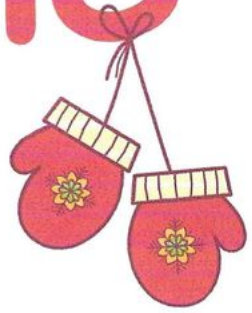


Nathan and I successfully completed the Amsterdam Marathon on the 19th October, both finishing just under 4 hrs 30 mins.

We would like to thank everyone who generously sponsored us. Together we raised over £1200 for SHELTER.

Thanks once again, Rebekah.

CHRISTMAS MARKET



**SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER
10:00AM TO 1:00PM**

**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
KIDDERMINSTER
DY10 2JL**

GROTTO CRAFTS GIFTS SMILES FOOD



SARAH@COBON.CO.UK



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN KIDDERMINSTER

INFORMATION & PRAYER NIGHT

Come and join us as we gather to listen to the heart of God for Kidderminster, as we explore exciting opportunities to reach out to our town and to pray **'Your Kingdom Come.'**

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2025

7 p.m Refreshments for 7:30 p.m. start

ST GEORGES CHURCH

Radford Ave, Kidderminster, DY10 2ES

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN KIDDERMINSTER

WWW.CTIK.INFO

Find the Methodist Churches, confirmed. From Cornwall to North Scotland (anagrams) (county named):-

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Pecan zen | Cornwall |
| 2. Sabra blent | Devon |
| 3. Rob list | City |
| 4. Riff cad | Welsh City |
| 5. Nearby vegan | Monmouthshire |
| 6. Horde ref | County town |
| 7. Dull ow | Shropshire |
| 8. Brushes wry | Shropshire |
| 9. Tokens rotten | Staffordshire |
| 10. Etchers | Cheshire |
| 11. Viler loop | City |
| 12. Pro nest | Lancashire |
| 13. El test | North Yorkshire |
| 14. Knowing rot | Cumbria |
| 15. Ace rills | Cumbria |
| 16. Be sleep | Scottish border |
| 17. Behind rug | City, Midlothian |
| 18. Due end | City |
| 19. Sermon to | Angus |
| 20. Bread nee | City |

Stan



"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"

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 coggygria 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.

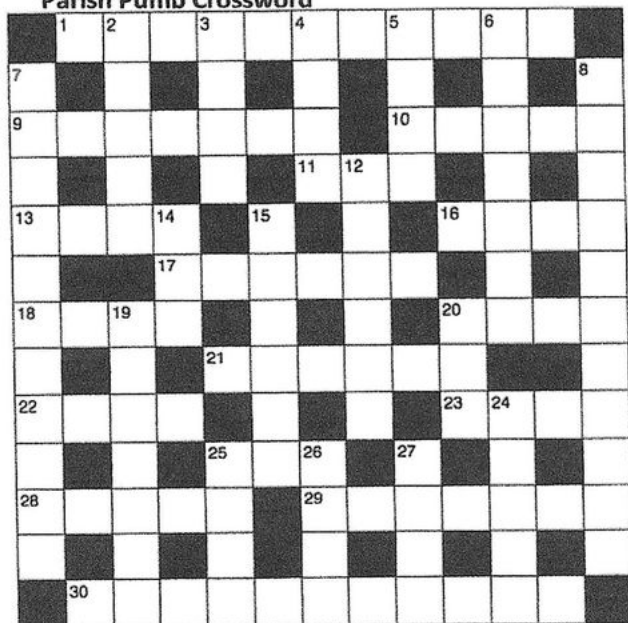
The pruning and or renovation of many deciduous trees, shrubs and hedges can be carried out from now throughout the dormant season once the sap is down, exceptions are tender plants and also Prunus species (e.g. ornamental cherries, plums and almonds), as these are vulnerable to silver leaf if pruned 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 Buddleja 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



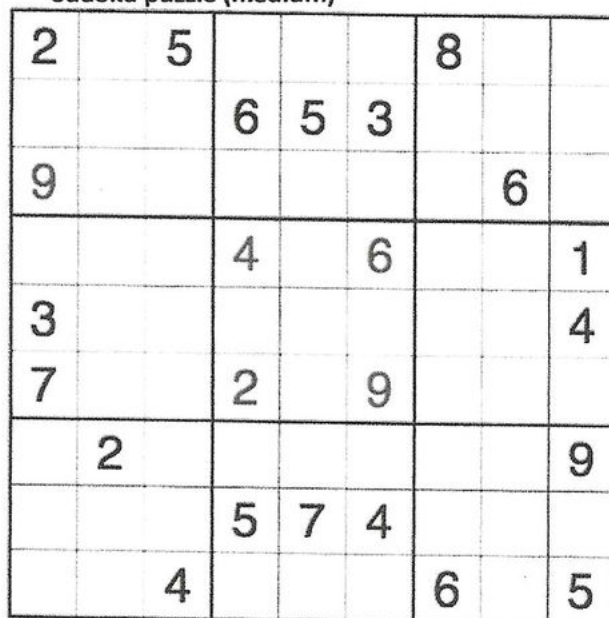
Across

- 1 The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)
 9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — —' (Matthew 6:13) (4,3)
 10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)
 11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)
 13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)
 16 Metallic element (4)
 17 At line (anag.) (6)
 18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)
 20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)
 21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
 22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)
 23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)
 25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)
 28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)
 29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1 Corinthians 10:17) (7)
 30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

Down

- 2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made —' (1 Corinthians 15:22) (5)
 3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)
 4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)
 5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)
 6 I veto me (anag.) (7)
 7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)
 8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)
 12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)
 14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)
 15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the —, something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)
 19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)
 20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under —, but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)
 24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)
 25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)
 26 Heroic tale (4)
 27 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you —' (John 8:32) (4)

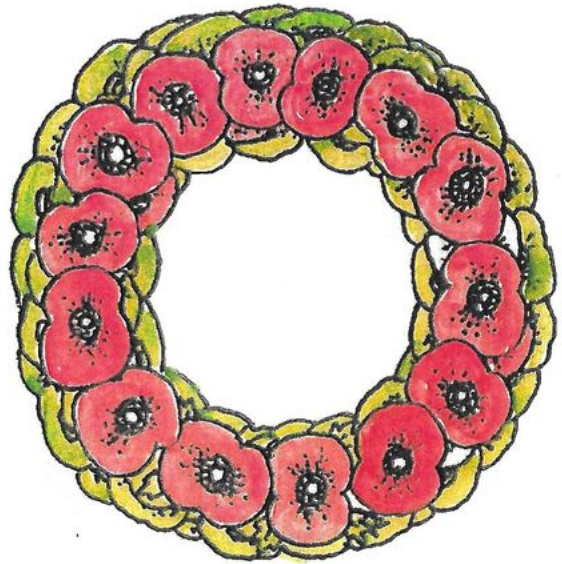
Sudoku puzzle (medium)



© 2008 KrazyDad.com

To Stretcher-Bearers

Easy does it -bit o' trench 'ere
Mind that blinkin' bit o' wire,
There's a shell 'ole on your left there,
Lift 'im up a little 'igher.
Stick it lad, ye'll soon be there now,
Want to rest 'ere for a while?
Let 'm dahn then – gently – gently,
There ye are, lad. That's the style.
Want a drink, mate? 'Ere's my bottle.
Lift 'is 'ead up for 'im, Jack,
Put my tunic underneath 'im,
'Ow's that chummy? That's the tack!
Guess we'd better make a start now,
Ready for another spell?
Best be goin', we won't 'urt ye,
But 'e might just start to shell.
Are ye right mate? Off we goes then.
That's well over on the right;
Gawd Almighty, that's a near 'un!
'Old your end up good and tight,
Never mind lad, you're for Blighty,
Mind this rotten piece 'o board.
We'll soon 'ave ye tucked in bed, lad,
'Opes ye gets to my old ward.
No more war for you my 'earty,
This'll get ye well away,
Twelve good months in dear old Blighty,
Twelve good months if you're a day.
M.O.'s got a bit 'o something
That'll stop that blarsted pain.
'Ere's a rotten bit 'o ground, mate,
Lift up 'igher – up again.
Wish he'd stop 'is blarsted shelling
Makes it rotten for the lad.
When a feller's been and got it,
It affec's 'im twice as bad.
'Ow's it goin' now then, sunny?
'Ere's that narrow bit 'o trench.
'Ere we are now, stretcher case, boys,
Bring 'im aht a cup o' tea!
*Inasmuch as ye have done it,
Ye have done it unto me*



Rev Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy was a priest at St. Paul's in Worcester. He became one of the best known Chaplains during WW1, and was affectionately known as "Woodbine Willie", as in his rucksack he carried New Testaments and Woodbine cigarettes. He won the MC for the risks he took to help the soldiers in his care.

Coming Home

You all read magazines and obviously you take in what is written. Many articles ask you to buy things, what to wear and what to eat. Many of these people are known as influencers; do as we say, not what we do. There are also things by and about celebrities. Some of these are often questions and answers. One of the popular questions is Who would you like to invite to a dinner party if you could choose anyone famous, dead or alive? One person, Vernon Kay actually, husband of Tess Daley the Strictly Come Dancing hostess, said he would like to have Jesus Christ. "Would it not be amazing to have a fella who can turn water into bottles of wine and take five loaves of bread and two fish and turn them into enough food to feed an entire party?" Wonderful words, but are they taking The Lord's name in vain? Or is it a forecast of the second coming of Christ? Or perhaps, Hope.

At the last supper there was a place for all. For all disciples and even one who doubted. There was a place for the powerful, powerless, celebrities all, and even for one who valued Jesus at 30 pieces of silver. There was room for all. We are all encouraged to pick and choose our table companions and it's only right to have some honoured guests at the table. Of course, this is all make-believe but every man should have a dream. When we come to your feast, remind us all are welcome. May we treat each guest as an equal and that we all have a right to be there. Are those celebrities who would like to have Jesus at their dining table forecasting a second coming? Of course it's only make believe, or is it?

There were many prophecies of His first coming throughout the Old Testament, culminating in His baptism by John in the River Jordan. There were also promises of His second coming. Whatever our thinking, the Bible keeps telling us that the return of Jesus will put to right the mess that humans have made of the World, say no more. This is God's plan, that Jesus will return and put the world to rights. There will be a new heaven and earth. Read that wonderful verse Revelation 21: 4, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away". We can all agree that we have hope that Jesus makes everything new and that one day He will return and put everything right. As the prayer says, 'Heaven will come to us, God's kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven'. Though we should be ready for the return of Jesus, we should not be obsessed by it. Just carry on and wait. We know he will come, just as a thief comes in the night, when we least expect it. Our faith has always been set on the future and the belief of a second coming. From the moment He ascended into heaven all Christians believe in His return. So do I believe? Well I've got 6 tankers of water in a field waiting to be turned into wine – Methodist communion wine that is.

Mike (Stourport Wesley)

Mike's Smile Lines

These are genuine schoolboy howlers (All true)

The first book of the bible is Guinness.

**

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

**

Samson slew the Philistines with the axe of the apostles.

**

A Christian should only have one spouse. This is called monotony.

**

The people who followed Jesus were the 12 decibels.

**

The Epistles were wives of the apostles.

**

It was a miracle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to get the tombstone off the entrance.

**

When Mary heard she was to be the mother of Jesus she sang the magna carta.

**

Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

**

Jesus explained that man does not live by sweat alone.

**

The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert.

**

Moses went up Mount Cyanide to find the 10 commandments.

**

Denial is the river where Moses was put into a basket.

**

David was a Hebrew King and a musician. He was skilled at playing the liar.

**

Jesus was probably Italian because He used a lot of olive oil and drank wine.

**

One of the opossums was St Matthew, he was also a taxi man.

**

St. Paul cavorted to Christianity. He preached the Holy acrimony which is another name for marriage.

**

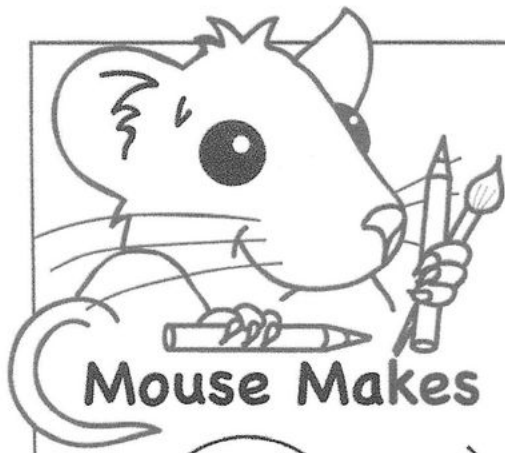
Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.

**

Moses led the Hebrews through the Red Sea where, on landing, they ate unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.



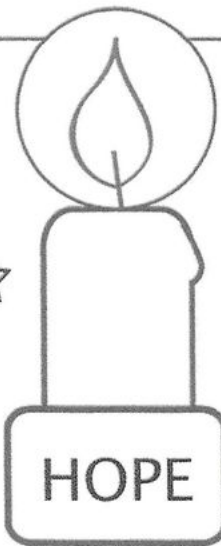
Bonfire night!



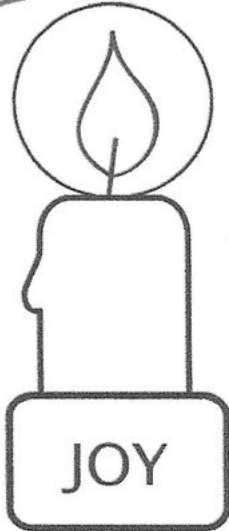
LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November.

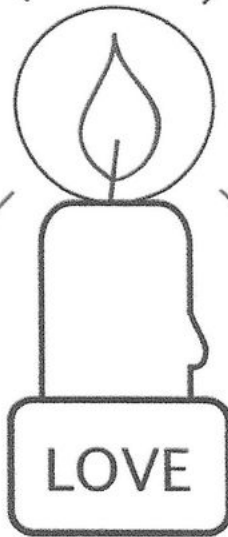
ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



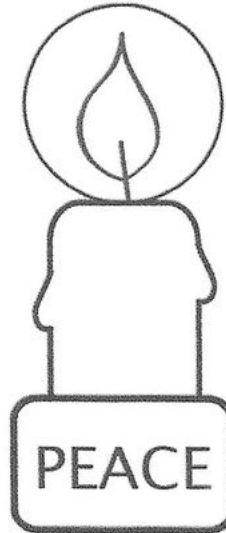
Read:
Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read:
LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



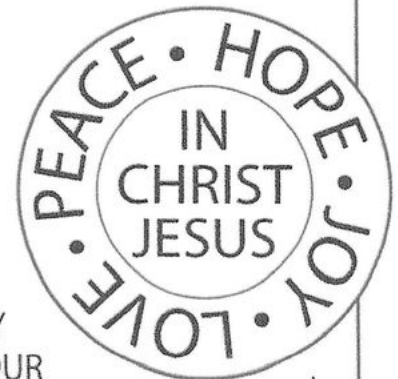
Read:
John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read:
Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?... I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



I need that bread!



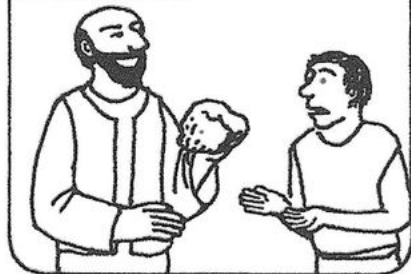
He's not going to go away, is he?



Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,

'..would you give them a stone?



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'..would you give them a snake?



'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?

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 2025

St Andrew and football

'Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don't like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that' (Bill Shankley). When you replace the word 'football' with 'mission', this quote still has something to say! The apostle Andrew (we remember him on 30th November) demonstrates what the mission of the Church is all about (cf John 1:35-42). It's not unlike following your favourite football team!

When we support a football team, we make sure that we know all about them! When Andrew and his friend heard about Jesus, they wanted to find out more: 'Look, the Lamb of God.' (John the Baptist, v35). The first stage of mission is finding out more about Jesus, the One who enables us to be friends of God through His death and resurrection.

Secondly, when supporting a football team, we will spend time watching their games. Andrew asked, 'where are you staying?' and Jesus replied, 'Come and you will see' (v39). Andrew spent the rest of the day talking and listening to Jesus. As a result of this time, he had something to share. How much time do we spend with Jesus, reading His word and praying?

When our team wins, we want to share the good news! After meeting Jesus, Andrew's first action was to tell his brother Peter: 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ)' (v41). Are we willing to tell others about Him too? Sharing with family and close friends can sometimes be harder than talking with strangers. However, we don't need to follow a football team to engage in mission. It's all about being excited to share Jesus with those we meet day by day.

'Mission is seeing what God is doing and joining in' (Rowan Williams).

by Canon Paul Hardingham (Parish Pump)

Bonfire Night – some simple rules for staying safe

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents has provided the following tips to help families stay safe while they are having Bonfire Night fun...

Young people should watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance and follow the safety rules for using sparklers. Only adults should deal with firework displays and the lighting of fireworks. They should also take care of the safe disposal of fireworks once they have been used. Here are some other things to bear in mind on the night:

1. Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable.
2. Keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
3. Read and follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch if necessary.
4. Light the firework at arm's length with a taper, and stand well back.
5. Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
6. *Never* return to a firework once it has been lit.
7. Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
8. Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
9. *Never* use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
10. Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

Parish Pump 2025

The clocks have gone back, and we are putting our gardens to sleep for the winter. But this autumn, when you tidy up, do not tidy away too much. Many insects and wild creatures will be relying on some ground cover or hideaway to call 'home' for the winter. Several piles of twigs or pruning, left around your garden in discreet places, will provide a great winter 'snugs' for toads, grass snakes and other small garden inhabitants. 'Spent' seed heads provide cover and food for birds over the winter. Above all, before you light any bonfires on 5th November, take care there are no hibernating hedgehogs inside!

Parish Pump 2025

Put together a Memory Book

Do you have grandchildren? Then this winter, during those long dark days, why not spend some time putting together a sort of scrapbook of memories to pass on to them?

Things you might like include could be: where you lived when you were a child; what your school was like, what games you most enjoyed, who your best buddies were, what pets you had, what your first job was, and how you met your partner. What was your first car, and where was your first home as an adult? Add a selection of photographs that you have from the past.

Parish Pump 2025

'All are welcome'

The Methodist Church has released a new recording of the hymn 'Let us build a house where love can dwell', known to many as 'All Are Welcome'. More than 140 Methodist churches contributed their voices to the project.

The hymn is intended as a response to the recent protests in London, the disorder outside the accommodation of those seeking asylum and the 'Raise the Colours' campaign.

Ben Lawrence, Digital Content Producer at the Methodist Church commented, "Many people have been made to feel, not just unwelcome, but frightened and intimidated by what is happening. We want this to be a song of reassurance, friendship and understanding."

Parish Pump 2025

All in the month of November

It was:

175 years ago, on 19th November 1850 that Alfred, Lord Tennyson, became Poet Laureate of the UK (until 1892).

125 years ago, on 22nd November 1900 that Arthur Sullivan, British composer, died. Best known for his collaborations with the dramatist W S Gilbert on operas including H.M.S. Pinafore and The Pirate of Penzance. He also wrote the hymn Onward, Christian Soldiers.

100 years ago, on 10th November 1925 that Richard Burton, Welsh stage and film actor was born. Known for Cleopatra, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? And many more. Fifth and sixth husband of Elizabeth Taylor. Died 1984.

90 years ago, on 6th November 1935 that Britain's Hawker Hurricane fighter plane made its first flight. It played a major role in WWII, especially during the Battle of Britain.

80 years ago, on 16th November 1945 that UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, was founded.

75 years ago, on 2nd November 1950 that George Bernard Shaw, Irish playwright and literary critic, died. Best known for Pygmalion. Winner of the 1925 Nobel Prize in Literature, and co-founder of the London School of Economics.

65 years ago, on 2nd November 1960 that a British jury cleared Penguin Books of obscenity for publishing D.H. Lawrence's novel Lady Chatterley's Lover. This is often considered the beginning of the permissive society in Britain.

60 years ago, on 9th November 1965 that the death penalty was abolished in the UK

50 years ago, on 3rd November 1975 that Britain's first North Sea oil pipeline was officially opened.

40 years ago, on 15th November 1985 that the Anglo-Irish Agreement was signed by the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Irish President Garret Fitzgerald. It gave the Irish government a consultative role in the affairs of Northern Ireland.

25 years ago, on 9th November 2000 that Eric Morley, TV host, died. Known for establishing the ballroom dancing competition Come Dancing (1949 – 98). It was succeeded by a celebrity version, Strictly Come Dancing, in 2004.

20 years ago, on 30th November 2005 that John Sentamu became Archbishop of York (until 2020). He was the first black archbishop in the Church of England.

Parish Pump 2025

Take it easy on those country roads

Country roads may look inviting to drive, but the statistics tell a different story. For collisions on rural roads are around four times more likely to result in a fatality.

Such is the finding of the NFU Mutual Rural Road Safety Report 2024. It found that in 2023, an average of one in every 32 collisions on rural highways resulted in a death, compared to one in every 122 on urban roads. Overall, more than 18 people died on rural roads each week in 2023.

So – what is wrong? It seems it is the sheer number of hazards which motorists may face on a rural road. These include blind corners, narrow roads, road quality, poor visibility, cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders, mud and debris, loose livestock, agricultural vehicles, unexpected road or field entrances, impatient drivers, and Sat-Navs sending people down unsuitable roads. It all adds up to one simple message: be careful and expect the unexpected on country roads.

Parish Pump 2025

Parish Pump Smile Lines

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man with no family or friends. The service was to be at a cemetery some distance away. As I was not familiar with the area, I got lost and finally arrived an hour late. The funeral director and hearse were long gone. There were only the diggers left and they were eating lunch. I went to the side of the grave and looked down. The lid was partially covered with soil. The diggers stared at me over their sandwiches, and I sensed their reproach that I had deserted this dead man in his final hour of need. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

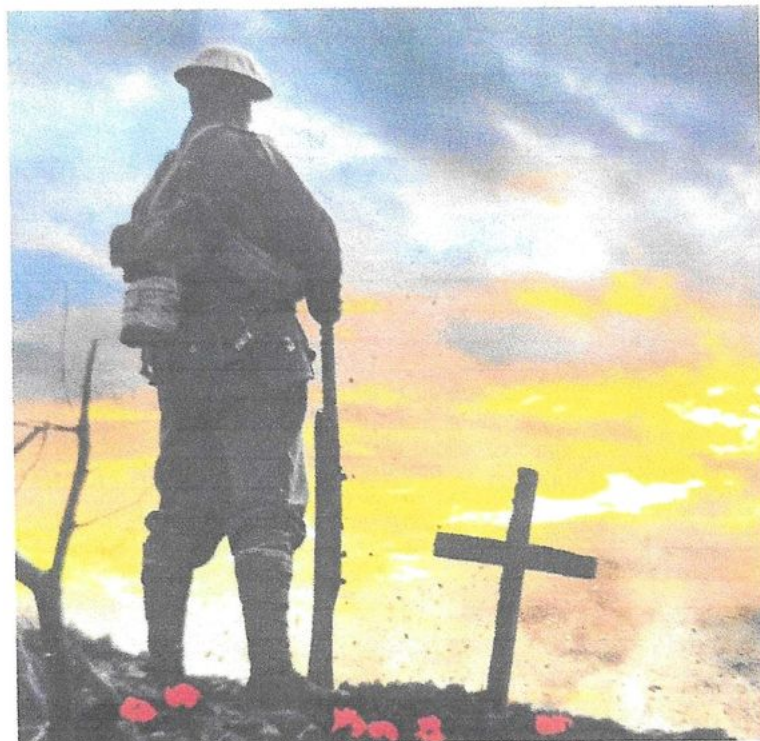
The diggers looked quite startled at this, and put down their lunches. But they stood quietly enough while I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. And as I played 'Amazing Grace,' the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together.

When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years." Apparently, I'm still lost....

**

My minister friend put hot-air hand dryers in the rest rooms at his church and after two weeks, took them out. I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine, but someone had scribbled on the dryer: "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button."

**



ANSWERS to Stan's Quiz

1. Penzance
2. Barnstable
3. Bristol
4. Cardiff
5. Abergavenny
6. Hereford
7. Ludlow
8. Shrewsbury
9. Stoke on Trent
10. Chester
11. Liverpool
12. Preston
13. Settle
14. Workington
15. Carlisle
16. Peebles
17. Edinburgh
18. Dundee
19. Montrose
20. Aberdeen

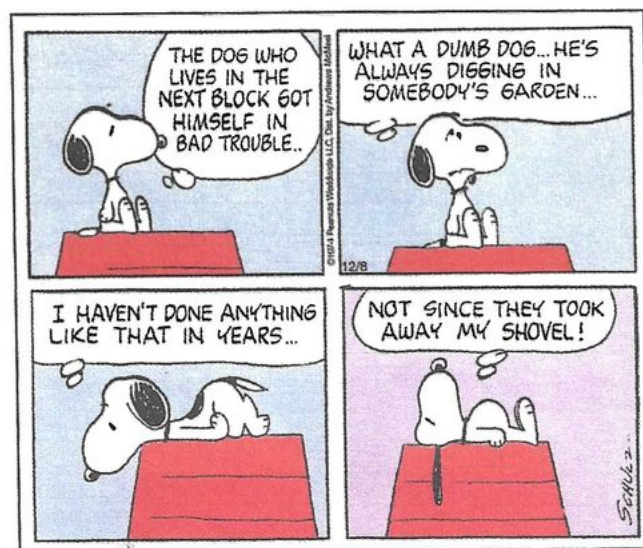
Sudoku solution

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

Crossword answers:

ACROSS: 1. Bartholomew. 9. Evil one. 10. Adore. 11. Ran. 13. Oreb. 16. Zinc. 17. Entail. 18. Hung. 20. Lehi. 21. Joshua. 22. Pity. 23. Wide. 25. Age. 28. Alarm. 29. Partake. 30. Sennacherib.

DOWN: 2. Alive. 3. Took. 4. Over. 5. Onan. 6. Emotive. 7. Jehoshaphat. 8. Melchizedek. 12. A light. 14. Beg. 15. Strong. 19. Not have. 20. Law. 24. Iraqi. 25. Amen. 26. Epic. 27. Free.



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):

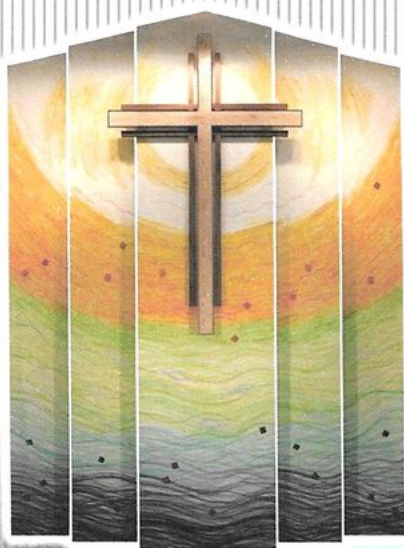
Cheesecake Bakewell Tart Sponge Pudding

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)





♦ 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 (NEW TIME!)

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)

www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

...2025...2025...2025