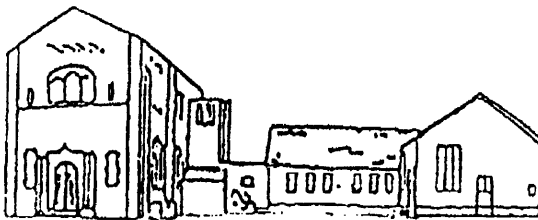
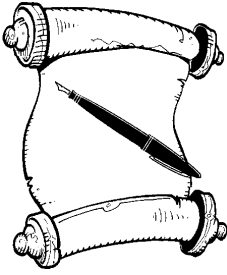


The Messenger



2011

ISSUE 187



GOD IS GREAT ---
GOD IS GOOD ---
LET US GIVE THANKS ---

These phrases will mean different things to different people who use them. In GENESIS Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 we read of God's GREATNESS in the story of creation. Also GENESIS Chapter 6 verse 9 thru Chapter 7 tells about the Great Flood...

We enjoy singing "How Great Thou Art" from Songs of Praise page 506. The word GOOD can come from many scriptures, see Exodus 20: 1-17; The Ten Commandments.

The book of PSALMS is the hymn book and prayer book of the Bible. These religious poems are of many kinds: there are hymns of salvation; pleas for forgiveness; songs of thanksgiving for God's blessings and petitions for the punishment of enemies. These prayers are both personal and national; some portray the most intimate feelings of one person, while others represent the needs and feelings of all the people of God.

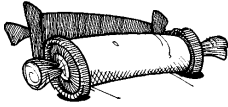
PSALMS 117 Praise the Lord, all nations!
 Praise him, all peoples!
 His love for us is strong and his
 faithfulness is eternal.

PSALMS 121 I look to the mountains;
 where will my help come from?
 My help will come from the Lord,
 who made heaven and earth.

Let us give THANKS, in our own way...Amen

James Wiggs
Deacon

Bible References: Good News Bible



Minister's Message

As I write, in the second week of July, there are two stories that dominate the media. The first is the trip to North America by the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall (William and Kate as was) and the alleged phone hacking at the News of the World.

People have slept overnight on the streets in Canada and America to catch a glimpse of the royal couple. They were desperate to be there. Even in Los Angeles, the home of the rich and famous, they caused a stir. ‘He shook my hand, it was so exciting, look at me, I’m shaking,’ said one woman.

Over at the News of the World, the desperation to get the inside information on all sorts of people – from royalty and politicians to families of victims of war and murder – has seemingly driven reporters to these underhand tactics. In both cases, it is all about not missing out on anything. By fair means or foul, we will get there.

On my first visit to Stanley Road in February, I talked about the five ‘lettuces’ (or ‘let-us-es’) of Hebrews 10, which were written to encourage the church. I find them very useful to remember.

The first one is ‘let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water’ (Hebrews 10:22).

How privileged we are! We are able to draw near to God – there is no need to queue up all night in a cold street or use the latest technology to break in. The Message paraphrase of 10:19 says, ‘So, friends, we can now—without hesitation—walk right up to God, into “the Holy Place.”’

We can have a ‘full assurance’ of this. The blood of Jesus has ‘cleansed’ us. We have been ‘washed’ clean. Christians have the opportunity through Jesus’ death and resurrection to know that we are forgiven and God allows us ‘in’ to have an audience with Him, whenever and wherever we wish.

This is prayer. As we pray, we don't just speak bland, open words that disappear into thin air, we are speaking to the living, listening God. Like any relationship, God wants to hear from us and wants to speak to us. It is how we get to know Him deeper.

That is why I am so excited about August and our 'Summer of Prayer'. We will have a different prayer focus for each of the 31 days and then at various points during the month, meet together at church to pray. I hope all of you will take one of the cards and pray for our various ministries and missions.

Quotes on prayer are easy to find on the internet. Two from Oswald Chambers stood out for me. 'Prayer does not fit us for the greater work, prayer is the greater work,' and 'We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties.'

We are a tremendously privileged church. We may not mix with royalty or have the inside track on politics or TV stars, but we worship a God who wants to use us, bless us and guide us into the future. May He show us that this month as we seek Him.

Steven





Church Flowers

Our thanks to the following friends for August and September's church flowers:

August

- 7th Mrs. S. Winskel
14th Brenda Butler
in memory
21st Jimmy Wiggles
28th Rosie Gee and Family
in memory

September

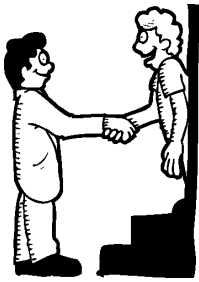
- 4th Margaret Bateson
*in memory of Mum
& Norman*
11th Irene Leeming
18th Dorothy Tyzack
on her wedding anniversary
25th Rosie Gee and Family
in memory

On July 17th, instead of the flowers being donated by Queenie and Jim Murcoch, they were donated by Mrs. Mary Fisher in memory of her husband Allen.

A special request. Has anyone any ivy in their garden? Since Mrs. Edna Henson has moved we have had no trailing ivy for the floral display. We need 4 or 5 trailing ivy and we can make it last about a month. Should you be able to help, please contact me.

Rosie Gee (411162)





Opening and Door Stewards Rota

As has been previously stated in the Messenger, it is important that the Church and Main Hall buildings are NOT left unattended whilst they are unlocked. To try and avoid this situation the Deacons have requested that both the premises opener and the Door Stewards for the Sunday Services should try and co-ordinate their activities so that when the front door to the church is open the porch/sanctuary is ‘manned’. It would be useful for both these persons to arrive at approx 10.00am.

August

7th	Opener	Mr. N. Woodhead
	Steward	Sue Morris
14th	Opener	Mr. J. Wiggs
	Steward	Kath Johnson
21st	Opener	Mr. C. Taylor
	Steward	Doris Taylor
28th	Opener	Mr. C. Taylor
	Steward	Derek Stillings

September

4th	Opener	Mr. A. Marsh
	Steward	Meg Walkden
11th	Opener	Mr. J. Wiggs
	Steward	Boys’ Brigade
18th	Opener	Mrs. M. Walkden
	Steward	Margaret Holmes
25th	Opener	Mr. N. Woodhead
	Steward	Jacqui Wigham

If you are interested in going on the rota, please contact me.

Kath Johnson

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The deadline for the next issue of the Messenger (October/November) will be the 9th September.

If you have any items/articles that you would like to see in the Messenger, please don't be afraid to pass them on to me. If you're not sure who I am, you can

usually find me at the front of the church playing the cornet.

Also, I thought it might be a nice idea to include more reports from other aspects of the life of the church ie: The Sunday Night Project, Friday Morning Prayer and Praise, Small Groups, etc. Really anything that is going on in the church that you would like other people to know about (it's not only our own members that read the magazine!).

Also, if anyone wishes to submit any articles taken from magazines, books etc., could you please supply them with details of where they came from (name of publication, author, name of publishers etc.) basically any information that would enable me to acquire permission to reprint the article. It may sound a bit much, but it's all down to copyright issues.

If you wish to send any article by email, they can be sent to messenger@stanleyroad.org.uk

Paul Woodhead



Church Web Site

The church web site can be found at www.stanleyroad.org.uk. If you have any comments about it please contact Matt Fletcher.





Church Meeting Agendas and Minutes

If you are a Church Member and would like to sign up to a new service to enable you to receive copies of Church Meeting Minutes and Agendas by E.Mail then please write down your name and E Mail address and pass it to Stephen Jarmin. Alternatively you can E Mail your request to sj@jarmin.freemove.co.uk

To be able to take advantage of this scheme your computer must be capable of receiving Microsoft Word Documents via E mail attachments.

Please note that paper copies will still be available in the normal way.

Video Cassette Ministry



If anyone would like to borrow a video of any service, then please see either Norman Woodhead or Matt Fletcher.

Bulletin Sheet

Stanley Road Baptist Church

Sunday 14th March 2004
 10.00 AM Holy Communion Service
 Coffee Will be served after the service.
 Pray 1 Corinthians 13

Welcome

Welcome to Stanley Road Baptist Church. If you are here for the first time we hope you will enjoy the service. We would be grateful if you could fill in a yellow visitors card.

During this morning's service there is a square snooker table at front of the church for parents with toddlers under 4.

NOTE
 The building is fitted with a loop system, switch your hearing device to "T" to make use of the facility.

Offering
 We have an offering at some point during the services today. Please do not feel obliged to give, it is for our members and regular worshippers to contribute to the work we do here.

Stanley Road Baptist Church, Stanley Road, Morecambe, LA3 3UP
 Minister: Rev. Graham Cole
 01524 42005 - graham@stanleyroad.org.uk - www.stanleyroad.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE: All notices must be given to Pauline Elder by the Wednesday of the previous week. They can be sent by post to her at 7 Homfray Grove, Morecambe LA3 3AQ, by phone on 833452 or by E-mail to pauline.elder@tiscali.co.uk.

Please note that the purpose of the Bulletin Sheet is to replace the necessity of lengthy announcements each Sunday. If you miss the deadline day your notice will not be in the Bulletin for that week and unless it is deemed to be urgent and important it will not be announced on the Sunday.



Things Financial

The total church offerings for the month of May (5 Sundays) were £3,847 and June (4 Sundays) were £2,368

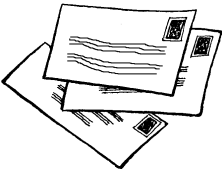


Fund Raising Stall

As you know I will be running the fund raising stall selling crafts and bits and bats all donated by our church family. The stall will be open on the 1st Sunday in every month and the funds raised in August and September will go to the Macmillan nurses. After that, any suggestions as to where the money raised will go will be up to you. Each time we hit a £100 it will be donated. If you have a cause close to your heart let me know.

Thanks for all your help, especially the Friday morning [group and a big thanks to Sally for all her work making such great cards.

Gena



Early Evening Extra

Now that the lighter nights are here, we would like to extend an invitation to you all to come to our Early Evening Extra service the first Sunday of the month eg. June 5th at 5.30pm until 6.15pm.

It is led by Jan Leighton with Jean Hayes playing the hymns. There is also communion.

The timing of our service coincides with the Sunday Night Project which starts at 6.30pm.

Sunday Special Birthdays



August

29th Amy Taylor

September

4th Liam Brown

20th Ben Warburton



Summer of prayer

Feel free to use these verses and pointers to help you pray during August

Summer of Prayer gatherings

Mon, Aug 1 6.30pm

GATHERING IN CHURCH, 'Beginning to seek'

Fri, Aug 12 10.30am

PRAYER AND PRAISE SPECIAL

Tue, Aug 16 7.30pm

THE EVENING SESSION,

meet in the prayer room

Thur, Aug 25 2pm

WOMEN PRAYING TOGETHER,

meet in the prayer room

Sat, Aug 27 8.30-10am

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST,

meet in the hall, £2 donation

Wed, Aug 31 6.30pm

CLOSING CELEBRATION, meet in church

1st Jer 29:13

Commit yourself to seeking God this month.

6.30pm GATHERING IN church, 'Beginning to seek'

2nd James 5:16

Be encouraged by the power of prayer today.

3rd John 3:16

Give thanks to God for saving you through his Son, Jesus.

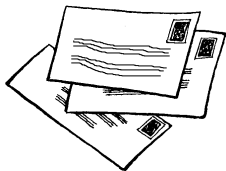
4th 1 John 1:9

Be honest with God today about your faults – trusting in His forgiveness.

- 5th Romans 5:1** Pray you will enjoy the peace of God in all you do today.
- 6th Romans 8:26** Ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit in your prayers.
- 7th Ps 119:10** Ask for strength to obey God in all areas of your life this week.
- 8th John 13:34** Pray that we will be a community characterised by love.
- 9th 2 Tim 3:16** Give thanks for the Bible and pray for our house groups as they study it.
- 10th Luke 18:16** Pray for Sunday Special and our toddler group – the children and the leaders.
- 11th Ephesians 5:19** Give thanks and pray for all those who regularly take part in our services.
- 12th Hebrews 10:25** Pray for the Prayer and Praise group as they host today's meeting.
- 10.30am PRAYER AND PRAISE SPECIAL, meet in the prayer room**
- 13th Colossians 4:5** Pray for the Sunday Night Project as it engages with the community.
- 14th Matt 6:33** Pray for a new willingness to make the Kingdom of God your priority.
- 15th Deut 6:9** Pray for our families, that they would be places of obedience to God.
- 16th Galatians 5:13** Pray for all the deacons, including our secretary and treasurer.
- 7.30pm THE EVENING SESSION, meet in the prayer room**
- 17th Titus 2:6** Pray for the Boys Brigade – the members and the leaders.
- 18th Phil 1:27** Pray for our minister-in-training, Steven, and his family.
- 19th Psalm 9:9** Pray for our Pastoral Care and Friendship Club teams as they serve others.

- 20th Psalm 127:1** Pray for those who work on our building and for any future plans.
- 21st Deut 4:29** Is there anything you are holding back from God?
- 22nd 1 Tim 2:2** Pray for our MP, our councillors and all in public service.
- 23rd Joshua 1:9** Pray for BMS World Mission and our link missionary, Justine.
- 24th Matthew 25:40** Pray for the work of Christian aid agencies in the world.
- 25th Proverbs 31:30** Pray for the women at SRBC as they meet to pray together.
- 2pm WOMEN PRAYING TOGETHER, meet in the prayer room**
- 26th 1 Thess 1:7** Pray that SRBC will have a powerful witness alongside other Christians in our town.
- 27th 1 Tim 2:8** Pray for the men at SRBC as they meet for a prayer breakfast.
- 8.30am MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST, meet in hall, £2 donation**
- 28th Matthew 7:7** Give thanks to God that He is willing and able to listen and act on our behalf.
- 29th Romans 12:2** Pray that we will be open to being changed by God.
- 30th Acts 1:8** Ask for God's help as we follow Jesus at work/school/college/home.
- 31th Psalm 105:4** May God continue to guide us at SRBC in the future.
- 6.30pm CLOSING CELEBRATION, meet in church**
-





Pastoral Care Team

The new pastoral care team is now up and running well. The team comprises Margaret Bateson, Rosie Gee, Margaret Holmes, Susan Parker, Doreen Turner, and me, working closely with Steven Hewitt, our new minister. Each team member has approximately 14 individuals in their care - when setting this up, I simply divided the Directory up alphabetically so that no partiality was shown!

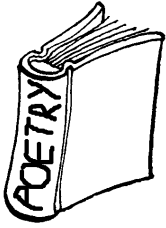
Pastoral care is, in fact, the responsibility of the whole church. In Galatians 6:2 Paul says 'Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ'. The new system never intended to take the place of established friendships or family support networks. Indeed, the idea of having a Pastoral care Team was to develop friendships that might never have happened in the past. As a relative newcomer to Stanley Road [5 years], I have been delighted to meet church members who are no longer able to attend services or take an active role in the church – in a relatively short time I know I have made new friends!

Another aspect of the new team is that we are all able to support each other when individuals are ill or folk hospitalised. Recently several of the team were able to support Rosie when Queenie [one of Rosie's 14] was in hospital and relief transport was needed. The visiting of the sick still continues and is greatly appreciated by those who are visited. I believe that it is imperative to show that we care about each other, and we can only do that by being in contact – either visiting or telephoning those on the fringe of our church. "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us and God's love is perfected in us." 1 John 4. 11-12

If anyone has been missed off the list or knows of someone who is unwell, please contact me on 01524 833452 or pauline.elder@tiscali.co.uk. Please hold us in your prayers as we seek to serve God in this way.

Pauline Elder

Pastoral Care Team Leader



The following poem is taken from the book of poems, "Reflections", with kind permission of Doreen Turner, the authoress.

The Grace of God

God gives grace to do His will.
Outside His will we struggle still.
His still small voice must be our Guide.
He says, "In Me you must abide."

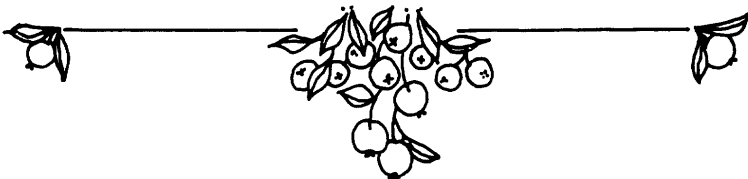
God's yoke is easy, His burden light.
Give Him your worries, don't try to fight.
In our own strength, the battle's lost.
Like the rolling sea we are tempest tossed.

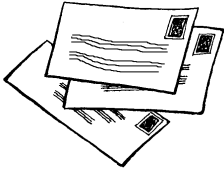
Remember Christ's death upon the tree.
He conquered death that we might see
The wonder of His saving grace,
His power to help us run the race

That leads us to His home above,
A mansion filled with His wonderful love.

"Reflections" consists of 12 of Doreen's poems, and a copy can be obtained from Doreen Turner or Rosie Gee. Donations to the Monday Friendship Group.

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Sunday Night Project

My goodness, this 2 months goes really fast. The Sunday Night Project is going strong with the quiz and the games night on the first and the third week of the month in the Cumberland. Quite a few new people are coming to these which is great. On the second Sunday we do all sorts of different things and on the fourth Sunday we have very interesting talks and events, usually in the hall. Everybody is so welcome. Come along, we would love to see you. Thanks to all the teams who make these things possible.

Thanks to all.

Kath, Marcia, David and all

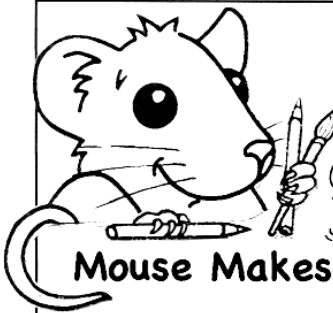
Future Events

August

- 7th Pub Quiz** at the Cumberland View Hotel
- 14th Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose!** Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church
- 21st Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose!** Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church
- 28th Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose!** Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church

September

- 4th Pub Quiz** at the Cumberland View Hotel
- 11th Community Barbecue - Free Food!** Outside Stanley Road Baptist Church
- 18th Promenade Treasure Hunt** Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church
- 25th Talk/Discussion** (to be announced)



Mouse Makes

This is Psalm 150, a song of praise to God, it tells us why and how to worship God.
How do you worship God and tell him how much you love him?

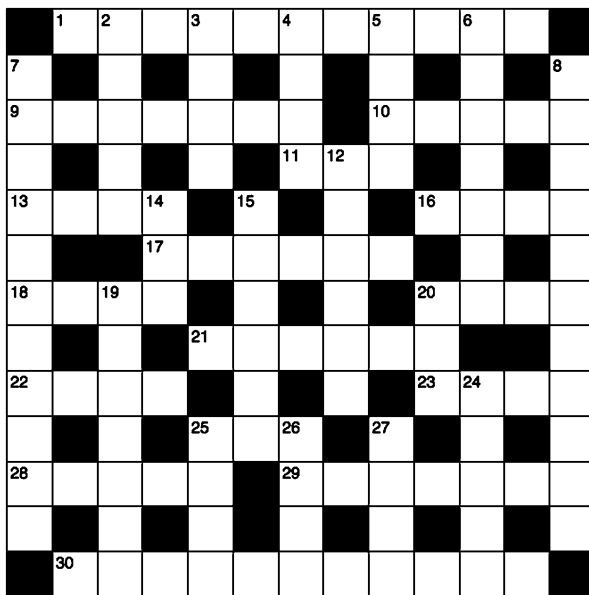
Praise God in his Temple,
Praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power
Praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Praise him with the sounding trumpet,
Praise him with the harp and lyre,
Praise him with tambourine and dancing,
Praise him with the clash of cymbals,
Praise him with resounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath
PRAISE THE LORD!



Colour in this praise poster, cut out then glue to a sheet of coloured card. Punch out the holes, tie on ribbon and hang up to remind you to PRAISE THE LORD!

Aug 11



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

Solution on page 32

Sudoku

Easy

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

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Intermediate

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

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Solutions on page 32

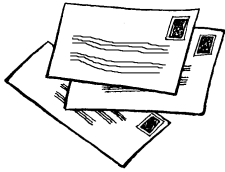
Wordsearch

If you love music and the arts, you will be looking forward to August. If modern Christian music under canvas, with a bit of mud, appeals to you, why not pack your kit for the Greenbelt Festival at Cheltenham Racecourse? Or, if traditional music is more to your taste, try the Three Choirs Festival in Worcester. Scotland calls: the Edinburgh Festival offers everything arty - from the sublime to the ridiculous. Or, if you like a bit of pomp and circumstance, head for the Edinburgh Military Tattoo...

Greenbelt Canvas Mud Tent Racecourse Music Guitars Microphones
Showers Rain Cathedral Choirs Classical Sublime Festival Scotland
Ridiculous Military Band Tattoo Marching Trumpets Drums Organs Song

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

Solution on page 32



Fruits and Seeds from the “Prayer and Praise” Orchard or Simple Science with religious applications

Once a ‘term’ Betty invites the members of the Friday morning meeting to take over one morning to share items with the group. These might be readings, stories, musical items, etc. This special morning is always varied, interesting and enjoyable - and often hilarious. (One of the most memorable for me was a monologue from Queenie about how to give a tablet to a cat, and before the end of it tears of laughter were streaming down my face; she read it so marvellously!)

I’m not very good at finding suitable readings, etc., so often I don’t contribute but just sit and enjoy everyone else’s, but occasionally I’m tempted to share something I’ve been thinking about, in case someone in the group might find my off-beat ideas of interest. This happened earlier this year, in the ‘spring term’, and the spin-offs surprised me.

While disposing of some old school books, I had come across and copied out a definition of science that must have been dictated or copied off the blackboard when I was 10 and in my first year at secondary school, in the 1940s. This was in my “General Science” exercise book:-

Science

Science is the study of everything on the earth and in the heavens. It includes:

Chemistry - the study of material things

Physics - the study of energy (light, heat, electricity and magnetism) and

Biology - the study of all living things, both plants and animals.

Solids, liquids and gases are the three states in which material things

are found.

Solids always have the same shape.

Liquids take the shape of the vessel into which they are poured.

Gases fill the whole space into which they are put.

People mostly forget having been taught things at school, but the information becomes part of our basic understanding and usually remains with us for life. We would take for granted now these three states of matter (solids, liquids and gases), and if we think about them at all we probably regard them as obviously distinct and separate from each other.

We may be less sure of this, though, if we think about the everyday substance, water. Under normal conditions this is clearly a liquid, but raise the temperature to above 100°C and it becomes steam; lower it to below 0°C and it becomes ice. *It's still the same water, but as the environment changes we perceive the water differently.*

Thinking about this I realised that it could have implications for our understanding of the Trinity.

When I worked at the University in Religious Studies, I had friends and acquaintances from other parts of the world and different religions, and I remember that sometimes Muslims in particular would express surprise that, although Christians claimed to worship one God, as they themselves do, we nevertheless seemed to worship and pray to Father, Son and Holy Spirit - apparently three Gods. (I must admit this concept can cause problems for some Christians too.) If expected to provide an answer I probably fell back on St. Patrick's illustration of the shamrock, three in one.

This Definition of Science, however, might make things much simpler for people struggling to understand the Trinity.

We can think of God as unseen but present everywhere (like a gas), of Jesus as being visible but in one place at one time (like a solid), and of the Holy Spirit (like a liquid) as taking on the shape of whatever vessel he pours into.

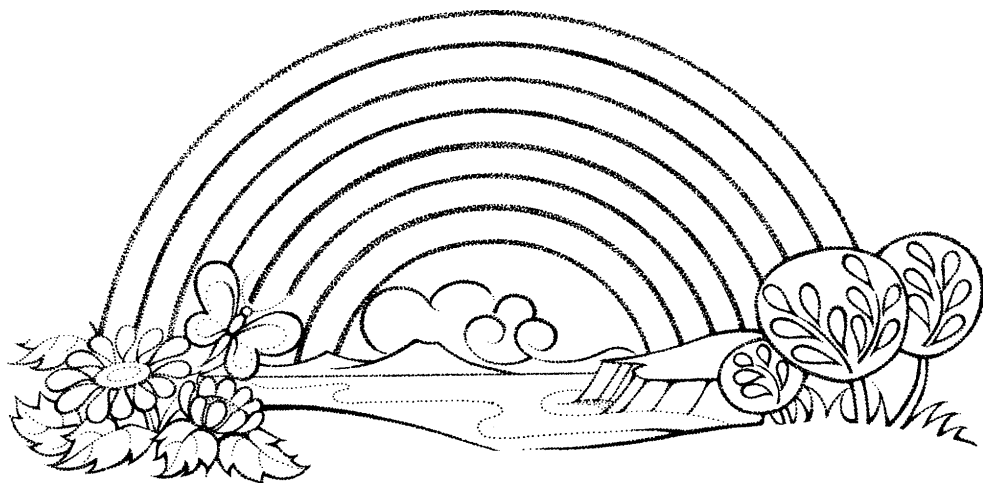
In order to show people what he was like in a way they could understand, and above all to fulfil his purpose of redemption, God had to become “solid” - visible, recognisable, living and vulnerable, present only in one place at one time - God the son.

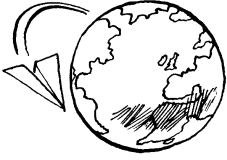
Then, after the crucifixion, resurrection and ascension, the time had come for God to be present in a different way too, as the Holy Spirit. Like a liquid taking on the shape of whatever vessel it is poured into, the Holy Spirit could be recognised living in the persons of his followers, people like Paul and the great Christian men and women who followed in his steps throughout history, spreading the knowledge of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.

God remains the same throughout (like the water) but, in order to fulfil his eternal purposes, he enables our perception of him to change. Sometimes we see him as God the Father, sometimes as Jesus the Son, and sometimes as the Holy Spirit - but he remains the One True God.

Jean Carr

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Prayer for Mission

The following prayer request was received by email from Open Doors:

“He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.” Psalm 46:9 (TNIV)

Sudan

Two Christians killed ahead of southern independence

A Christian student was shot dead by Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) on 8 June in the embattled northern state of South Kordofan, which sits on the border with South Sudan.

Nimeri Philip Kalo, a student at St Paul Major Seminary, was fleeing the town of Kadugli with other Christians after Muslim militias loyal to the SAF attacked and looted at least three churches. Sources said that SAF military intelligence agents accused Kalo of being a Christian and suspected he was therefore opposed to the Islamic government.

“They shot him in front of our eyes and forced us not to cry, or else we would face the same fate,” a local Christian said.

On the same day, Islamic militants loyal to the SAF slaughtered a young Christian man in Kadugli market. Adeb Gismalla Aksam (33) was attacked by Muslim extremists wielding swords and shouting “Allahu-akbar [God is greater]!”

Another Christian who requested anonymity was also arrested at gunpoint by SAF agents, accused of being anti-Islam, and then taken to a military jail, where he was severely beaten and ‘kicked like a ball’.

“I was praying to God to be with me and forgive them,” he said. “I thought that was my end, but thank God I was released, but warned to quit the town. As I was running they opened fire on me, but the motorbike was running very fast, so no bullet hit me.”

Armed conflict broke out between southern and northern militaries in Kadugli on 6 June after northern forces seized the disputed region of Abyei last month. The fighting in South Kordofan pits northern forces against mostly ethnic Nubans, who fought for the southern rebels during the civil war but now find themselves in the north.

On 12 June, the North Kordofan Governor declared jihad (holy war) on the Nuba people, most of whom are Christians. Sudanese Christians are calling on the church worldwide to pray for the crisis in South Kordofan. “The situation is critical - we need other Christians to fast and pray for us,” said a source.

Source: Compass News Direct, BBC

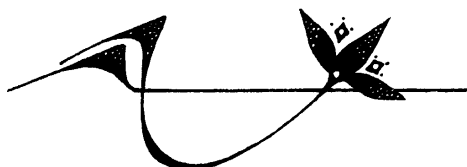
Please pray:

1. That this situation will not drag North and South Sudan into another war.
2. That Christians trapped in the midst of the violence will have strength to stand firm.
3. For God’s guidance for political leaders in the South as they gain independence from North Sudan on 9 July.

With many thanks for your prayers.

Jane

Prayer Communications





No sooner had I arrived at Stanley Road, I was off again – to France as part of a SportsReach football team on a one-week mission trip.

This year was the eighth year a team has been to the Charolles region of eastern France (near Macon, north of Lyon) and again lots of seeds have been sown. It was great to see how things have developed since I was last on tour there in 2005.

The metaphor of the seed is spot on as all week we were sowing in the expectation that at some God-appointed time, this seed will bear fruit.

We stayed in a school and had some opportunities to interact with the teenage children there. Our team devotions were on parables and for us all, these were real times of refreshment as we took time to study what Jesus was saying in these earthly stories with heavenly meanings.

We played five games in six days, which kept us busy. The team played really well together and the spirit was excellent. The fact that 11 of the 14 players had been on tour before proved to be a real strength.



I was struck by how at different times, different doors open. One team unfortunately postponed early in the week but we played a new team in our final match and they were extremely welcoming and listened to the Word being shared afterwards. It seems that the teams talk to each other about us!

One man we spoke to, who we played against but then who played for us later in the week, said we were ‘courageous’. We pray that this will be a sign of how important the Gospel message is to us, and they will take it on board.

Please pray for this region, and that perhaps one of the teams will accept our invite to come over to England, and that the words spoken and literature given out will be considered by the players. Relationships are developing positively – may the seed of the Gospel bear fruit and the soil produce corn (Mark 4: 26-29).

There is a possibility that I return there on next year's tour to France. I would appreciate the support of the church in this, particularly praying for me and for Rebecca, Beth and Isaac who are left behind. If anyone would like more information, please speak to me or visit www.sportsreach.org.uk. And let me know if you know any decent footballers – I am always on the lookout!

Steven Hewitt

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"Looks like no one was available to fill in for the vicar's annual holiday again."

11 July 2011

Tearfund partners in East Africa are stepping up efforts to help people going hungry due to drought, failed harvests and rocketing food prices.

Around ten million people are suffering as a result of the crisis that is mainly affecting parts of Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia.

UNICEF is warning that two million children are malnourished as a result of the drought in the Horn of Africa, and half a million could soon die or suffer long-lasting mental or physical damage.

Kenya

The Kenyan government has declared a national disaster in the north of the country, where several years of poor rains have left 3.5 million people vulnerable.

Most people in this area rely on cattle and other livestock to make a living and our partner, Community Christian Services of Mount Kenya East (CCSMKE), is transporting water by tankers to assist them, as well as carrying out new assessments of need to boost their response.

Over the last ten years of operation in northern Kenya, CCSMKE has been helping communities become better able to cope with drought conditions, for example by training people to build dams to store water and teaching them how to combat soil erosion.

The value of this long-term approach to reducing the risk of disasters was underlined by a recent Tearfund report which said that for every £1 invested in these types of activities, communities saw a benefit equivalent to £24.

But the changing climate in East Africa over recent years has had an adverse impact on livestock herders who have seen the value of their animals drop and their markets collapse, resulting in dwindling food purchasing power.

This has come at a time when staple food prices around the world have risen massively, for example the price of white maize at one Kenyan market has risen by 58 per cent in a year.

Conditions for pastoralists are predicted to deteriorate further in the next four months.

Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, where food inflation is running at 40 per cent, 3.2 million people are experiencing serious hardship as a result of the crisis.

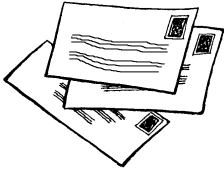
Most of them are in the south east, another area where people rely on livestock for their livelihoods.

Other areas in the south of Ethiopia are also showing signs of food shortage-stress. Here partners such as the Wolaitta Kale Heywet Church are preparing to launch a cash-for-work programme that will enable more than 500 families to feed themselves.

Another Ethiopian partner, the Full Gospel Believers' Church, which is also involved in long term projects to help people overcome hunger, is planning to step up activities such as cash-for-work schemes.

The key to whether the crisis will worsen in Ethiopia is the longevity of rains which need to fall between now and mid-September to avert widespread harvest failures.

In **Somalia**, our partner World Concern is carrying out detailed assessments of people's needs this week on the Kenya/Somali border.



How to face your future

by Rick Warren

No matter what people claim, no one can accurately predict all that is going to happen in the future. Our best forecasts are just educated guesses. Changes in our society have not only increased in speed and intensity, but also in their unpredictability. How can anyone succeed when the future is so uncertain?

The Bible suggests three timeless principles for facing your future:

1. Include God in your goal-setting.

Frankly, it's dumb to make plans without consulting God first. He's the only one who DOES know the future – and he's eager to guide you through it. The Bible says 'We make our plans, but God has the last word' (Pr. 16:1). In other words, planning without praying is presumption. Start by praying: 'God, what do YOU want me to do?'

2. Live one day at a time.

While you can plan for tomorrow, you can't live it until it arrives. Most people spend so much time regretting the past and worrying about the future, they have no time to enjoy today! Someone once quipped 'life is what happens to you while you are making other plans.' Decide to make the most of each moment. Jesus said: "Don't be anxious about tomorrow – God will take care of your tomorrows. Live one day at a time." (Matt. 6:34)

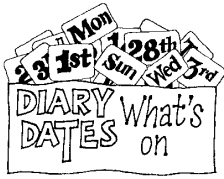
3. Don't procrastinate – do it now!

'Don't boast about what you're going to do tomorrow, for you don't know what a day may bring forth' (Pr. 27:1). Procrastinating is a subtle trap. It wastes today by postponing things until tomorrow. You promise yourself that you'll do it 'one of these days'. But 'one of these days' is usually 'none of these days'.

What did you plan to get done in the last year that you didn't do? When do you intend to start working on it?

'Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Don't say to your neighbor 'come back later; I'll give it tomorrow' when you NOW have it with you' (Pr. 3:27-29). DO IT NOW!

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope... You will find me when you seek me, if you look for me in earnest." Jer. 29:11, 13.



August

1st	Friendship Group	10.00 am
	Gathering in Church (Summer of Prayer)	6.30 pm
5th	Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
7th	Sunday Services - (All Age)	
	Steven Hewitt	10.30 am
	Early Evening Extra	5.30 pm
	Sunday Night Project - Pub Quiz	
	at the Cumberland View Hotel	6.30 pm
8th	Friendship Group	10.00 am
12th	Prayer & Praise Special (Summer of Prayer)	10.30 am
14th	Sunday Services - (All Age)	
	Colin Taylor	10.30 am
	Sunday Night Project - Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose! Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church	6.30 pm
15th	Friendship Group	10.00 am
16th	The Evening Session (Summer of Prayer) meet in the prayer room)	7.30 pm
19th	Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
21st	Sunday Services - (Communion)	
	Mary Fisher	10.30 am
	Sunday Night Project - Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose! Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church	6.30 pm
22nd	Friendship Group	10.00 am
25th	Women Praying Together (Summer of Prayer) meet in the prayer room	2.00 pm
26th	Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
27th	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Summer of Prayer) meet in the hall, £2 donation	8.30 am

28th Sunday Services	
Steven Hewitt	10.30 am
Sunday Night Project - Leisurely stroll, jog or cycle on the promenade - you choose! Meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church	6.30 pm
29th Friendship Group	10.00 am
31st (Summer of Prayer) Closing celebration - meet in church	6.30 pm

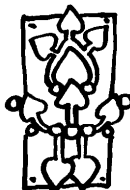
September

2nd Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
4th Sunday Services	
Steve Ball	10.30 am
Early Evening Extra	5.30 pm
Sunday Night Project - Pub Quiz at the Cumberland View Hotel	6.30 pm
5th Friendship Group	10.00 am
7th Parents & Toddlers	9.30 am
9th Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
Boys' Brigade - Anchorboys	5.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Junior Section	6.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Company Section	7.00 pm
Magazine Deadline	
11th Sunday Services	
Steven Hewitt	10.30 am
Sunday Night Project - Community Barbecue - Free Food! Outside Stanley Road Baptist Church	6.30 pm
12th Friendship Group	10.00 am
14th Parents & Toddlers	9.30 am
16th Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
Boys' Brigade - Anchorboys	5.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Junior Section	6.00 pm

Boys' Brigade - Company Section	7.00 pm
18th Sunday Services - (Communion)	
Steven Hewitt	10.30 am
Sunday Night Project -	
Promenade Treasure Hunt -	
meet at Stanley Road Baptist Church	6.30 pm
19th Friendship Group	10.00 am
21st Parents & Toddlers	9.30 am
23rd Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
Boys' Brigade - Anchorboys	5.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Junior Section	6.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Company Section	7.00 pm
25th Sunday Services	
Stephen Warburton	10.30 am
Sunday Night Project -	
Talk/Discussion - (to be announced)	6.30 pm
26th Friendship Group	10.00 am
28th Parents & Toddlers	9.30 am
30th Prayer & Praise Meeting	10.30 am
Boys' Brigade - Anchorboys	5.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Junior Section	6.00 pm
Boys' Brigade - Company Section	7.00 pm

NOTE: Leaders of the above organisations/meetings are asked to keep the Editor informed of any changes e.g. holidays, times etc. so that this diary can be kept up to date.

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C	H	A	R	I	O	T	E	E	R	S	
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Easy

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B	A	N	D	M	S	E	S	M	G	N	E	R	E
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Intermediate

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

Stanley Road Baptist Church, Morecambe

SUNDAY

Sunday Special and Family Worship	10.30 am
Sunday Night Project	6.30 pm
Communion Service - <i>Evening (5.30pm) of the 1st Sunday in the month and morning (10.30am) of the 3rd Sunday</i>	

MONDAY

Friendship Group	10.00 am
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WEDNESDAY

Parents and Toddlers	9.30 am
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FRIDAY

Prayer and Praise meeting	10.30 am
Boys' Brigade - <i>Anchorboys (5-8 years)</i>	5.00 pm
<i>Junior Section (8-11 years)</i>	6.00 pm
<i>Company Section (11 onwards)</i>	7.00 pm

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Flowers:- Rosie Gee