

The Link



February 2024



Shanklin United Reformed Church www.shanklinurc.co.uk

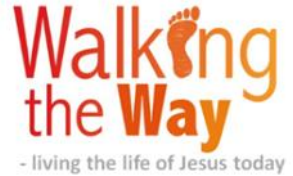
View From Number 10



Walking With Jesus in 2024

This month we will begin to explore the theme of discipleship. At our retreat in November, the Elders felt that it would do us all good to focus on what it really means to be a follower of Jesus today.

A few years ago, the URC adopted a broad theme of **Walking the Way – living the life of Jesus today**, seeking to bring authentic discipleship to the heart of all we do as a church. We did look at various aspects, but it now seems appropriate to dig further into this on-going challenge and let it shape our work over the coming year.



The word **Christian** carries a lot of baggage in the modern world with all the mistakes that the church has made down the centuries. People may have preconceived ideas and can immediately put us in that “box” before we’ve had a chance to explain what it really means to us. I tend to find it more helpful to identify myself as **a follower of Jesus** as this often provokes a response and can open up conversations. Try it next time the opportunity comes up, and see...

So, what does it really mean to follow Jesus in 2024? I began to look at this big question with both congregations in the January Café Services. We saw how the first disciples were captivated by this extraordinary man from Nazareth. When he invited them to follow him and learn a whole new fishing business, they simply had to drop everything and go with him on a journey of discovery.

But we don’t have the man standing physically before us and beckoning us to walk with him - so how can we follow? Well, people across the world today are still encountering Jesus in amazing and compelling ways and finding that they really can walk with him in daily life. How is this possible?

The Bible reveals that things did not come to an end when Jesus was crucified like a criminal by the Romans. In fact, the cross was his destiny and there, as he gave himself for the world, the power of

evil, sin and death were broken. His body and blood provided the sacrifice that could win forgiveness and set us free to bring us into the new life that he promised. He was raised to life again, and by the power of his Spirit he comes to us today and invites us to follow in his footsteps. It is a big challenge to change our priorities and to put him first, but it is a truly exciting adventure. We are invited to believe and receive; to get up and go.



My prayer is that we will embark on such an adventure together as we explore this important theme of discipleship over the next few months; I plan to break for Easter and for our café services.

These are some of the themes that I have in mind to cover:

Bible Basis	being rooted firmly in God's Word
Persistent Praying	going deeper in relationship
Habitual Holiness	growing in his likeness
Observant Obedience	taking his commands seriously
Steady Stewardship	generous giving from all that is his
Sacrificial Service	putting others first like Jesus did
Spirit Sensitive	led and empowered by the Spirit
Willing Witness	ready to share our faith
Waging War	standing our ground against evil
Christ-centred Community	doing all this together as a family

I would really appreciate your prayers as the ideas take shape and that I'll be inspired to provide some clear and helpful guidance in identifying priorities so that we can grow and thrive as we walk together as followers of the King of Kings.

Grace and peace



Prayer



On Friday 16th February we will be having a special prayer gathering to help focus on the season of Lent as we look towards the celebrations of Jesus' death and resurrection. Join us at 19:30.

Tuesday Prayer at 19:30

Continues each week via Zoom using the same account as for other activities and groups :

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3242665584?pwd=ZTIXZzBLWnkrWTNBY2JBK1o0K2ZXdz09>

Meeting ID: 324 266 5584 Password: 936536.

Text Prayer Network

This has proved a really efficient method of getting prayer needs around. So, if you have an urgent and important issue that needs immediate cover, please text Lou on **07474 273119** (or, as a back-up - Jean Cunningham on: 07854 324809) with your prayer request and she will mobilise a team of intercessors by forwarding the message to the group. Each of the team will pray and then delete the message.

If you'd like to be added to this network, please get in touch with Lou and she will brief you on the protocols.

Prayer for Israel

Is held each Monday at 15:00, normally at Roy, Melodie and Carol's home and on the church Zoom (should you wish to join the meeting on Zoom, please contact Melodie or Roy beforehand).

Please get in touch with Roy & Melodie for more details: melodieroywilson@gmail.com or ☎ 866912

ENCOUNTER

On the last Sunday of each month at 10:30

A café style meeting place to drop in and enjoy



**some refreshments
...a relaxed time of Friendship, Fun, Food
and exploring Faith...
with craft, songs, challenges, prayers...**

EVERYONE is welcome – why not bring a friend?

Join us on 25th February
Peter Wells from Ryde will be helping lead
– café serving from 10.15

Christmas Appeal for

We raised a total of £510.60...

**to help support our struggling
brothers and sisters in Egypt.**

Thanks to all who contributed.

release
international
voice of persecuted christians

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 3rd February

08:30

at Viv's Cooking, 9 High Street Sandown

Full English breakfast with drinks and toast – all for £10

Please sign the list if you plan to come along



Exploring Church Membership

We do encourage those who have made this church fellowship their home for a year or more to consider becoming a church member.



Brian and Robin will be exploring what this involves with an afternoon session on **Saturday 17th February from 14:00-17:00.**

Please speak to one of them if you'd like to come along.

If you are committed to following Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and feel this church family is your spiritual home, do consider taking this important step. We need to stand together as we serve.

Connection Quiz

1. What is the Canadian province where French is the majority and sole official language?
2. What is the capital of Peru?
3. Which Sesame Street character is 'The Grouch'?
4. Who is Juliet's Shakespearian lover?
5. So, what is the **connection** between the answers to questions 1 - 4?
6. And bonus question... where was the cover photo taken? Hint: it was taken in Normandie, France



Answers are on [page 47](#)

Shared Worship in The Bay



Share Sunday evenings with friends from various local congregations across The Bay

4th Feb 17:00 URC

11th Feb 17:00 St John's Church Hall
Carter Street, Sandown

Other Venues To Be Confirmed

Save the Date!

We are hoping to arrange a party from the church to this URC Wessex Synod event...

Wessex Synod

BIG day out '24

Hollycombe
STEAM IN THE COUNTRY
hollycombe.co.uk



Children £5
Adults £8



BRASS
BAND

Were you at the Wessex Synod
Big Day Out in 2022?

Big Day Out '24 will be
Bigger and Better
with many **more rides**
and additional programme
activities provided by
the Wessex Synod.

Open to all church groups,
user groups, and
community links

FOREST
CHURCH

STORY
STORY
STORY



SATURDAY 4TH MAY 2024
10AM - 5PM

Book via:



**Come to
'The Well'**

a place for

Living Well Together

A safe place for friendship, support and a refreshing time – here at Shanklin URC:

Wednesdays 11:00 – 13:00

Free refreshments and craft activities

Just drop in at any point



North Korea is again number one in the World Watch list for persecution of Christians (see [page 36](#)), but...

What About Countries Outside the World Watch List 2024 Top 50?

Discover the countries which are just outside the Open Doors World Watch List Top 50, where Christians also count the cost of following Jesus.

The focus of the Open Doors World Watch List is on the 50 countries where Christians pay the highest cost for following Jesus – but, sadly, believers are persecuted in other countries too. In 78 countries, Christians face high, very high or extreme persecution and discrimination (that is, a ‘persecution score’ of 40 or more according to World Watch List [methodology](#)). That’s two more countries than last year.

No countries entered or left the top 50 in World Watch List 2024, though many changed position. Some of the countries listed below have previously been in the top 50. Two countries have a high level of Christian persecution for the first time: Lebanon and Ukraine.

Kenya (51)

Kenya is at number 51 for the second year in a row. Though there were fewer reported murders and church attacks this year, Christians remain vulnerable to attack by jihadist attacks, particularly at the hands of Islamic extremists al-Shabaab. Christians who’ve converted from Islam are at risk from their communities and even their relatives, particularly in the north east and coastal regions of Kenya. Many have made the decision to relocate to Nairobi, which is less dangerous.

Tanzania (52)

Tanzania has risen a place in the World Watch List, though the persecution score has actually fallen slightly as there have been fewer reports of Christian homes and businesses being attacked. Believers are still targeted by jihadists, though, and church activities continue to be monitored by state authorities. Church leaders still

fear openly criticising the government's record on social injustice as this has led to harassment in the past.

Nepal (53)

Converts from Hinduism experience the most pressure in Nepal, and Hindu extremist mobs attacked three churches in August 2023. There were also reports of Christians being forced to flee their homes and villages because of threats. Hindu nationalism is currently a greater cause of persecution in neighbouring India, but there is a growing number of radical groups in Nepal who want to turn the country into a Hindu state, and these groups have close ties with extremist groups in India. Anti-conversion legislation was signed into law in 2017, and can be used to harass and falsely accuse Christians.

Kuwait (54)

Persecution has decreased slightly in Kuwait, owing to reduction in pressure across all areas of life and fewer incidents of violence being reported. Immigrant Christians from the West are usually able to practise their faith without persecution, though they can face persecution if they share the gospel with Kuwaitis. Kuwaiti converts from Islam are most likely to experience persecution, as this conversion is seen as disloyalty to your clan or family. You are likely to be pressured to return to Islam.

Djibouti (55)

Persecution is increasing in Djibouti, with more reported incidents of violence in the past year. Djibouti now has a 'very high' level of persecution, up from 'high'. There are reports of women who've converted from Islam being forced to marry Muslims without their consent. Islam is deeply rooted in society and hence any other religion is regarded as alien. The level of persecution that Christians with a Muslim background experience comes both from the local community and their own family members. Hiding one's faith is one means of protection but the communal lifestyle makes this very difficult.

Chad (56)

There has been a sharp increase in violent persecution of Christians in Chad in the past year from Fulani militants and Boko Haram militants, meaning Chad's Christians now face 'very high' levels of persecution, up from 'high'. Converts face a perilous existence, caught between political, familial, and radical Islamic threats. Although Christians make up over 30% of the population, public worship for Christians is faced with hostility in northern and north eastern regions, as well as in areas outside the capital city.

United Arab Emirates (57)

United Arab Emirates (UAE) has fallen three places on the World Watch List, with a corresponding, though small, decrease in persecution. Overall, pressure remains highest on converts from Islam to Christianity – both natives to UAE and immigrants from other countries. Islam dominates private and public life, and all citizens are considered Muslim: officially, the punishment for conversion is death. Even though there are no reported cases of the death penalty being enforced against converts, the mere fact that the law exists is an effective deterrent.

Sri Lanka (58)

Persecution against Christians has risen in Sri Lanka this year, with a significant increase in violent incidents – particularly attacks on churches and arrests of Christians for faith-based reasons. Government officials, especially in predominantly Buddhist communities, continue to contribute towards the persecution of Christians – often following the demands of local Buddhist monks or mobs. Converts to Christianity are the most vulnerable to persecution. As one country researcher states, "People often say that changing one's religion is similar to forgetting one's own mother."

Azerbaijan (59)

Violence increased slightly in Azerbaijan in the past year – including a church and two Christian cemeteries being damaged by government armed forces. No religious activities beyond state-run and state-controlled institutions are allowed. State agents are reported to have infiltrated all religious congregations. Pastors and

other church leaders are regularly invited for conversations with the police. This has created an atmosphere of fear and no one knows who they can trust any longer.

Please Pray

- For Christians in these countries to know God's love and strength, so the church can stand strong and share the love of Christ
- That the World Watch List will be used as powerful resource for raising prayer for, and awareness of, our persecuted church family
- That the Spirit of God will go with all Open Doors partners as they serve those who count the highest cost for following Jesus.

The **2024 World Watch List Top 50** can be viewed at:

www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list/

You can order your own paper copy of the World Watch List, from the website (with delivery in mid-February) and copies should be available in Church around that time. This is a valuable resource from which to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters around the world; it also includes inspirational stories and testimonies from persecuted Christians.

Order your own copy now, or please pick one up when they are available.

Source: [Open Doors](http://www.opendoors.org)
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CHILDREN'S CAMP

28 – 31 MAY 2024

OAKWOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE



WESSEX SUMMER CAMPS



YOUTH CAMP

12 – 14 JULY 2024

G B OUTDOOR CENTRE



If you want more information, e.g. what's happening, price, etc., please see Robin or Christopher

Latest news from Kalasa in Uganda



Praise be to our Living God. I am sorry I would have sent this message before Christmas but, I could not because in the village where we held our crusades, the Network reception was very poor. Let me know send a belated happy Christmas. Thanks so much for standing with us for Kalasa Ministry otherwise, we wouldn't have come this far. Thanks so much all church members at Shanklin and Ryde URCs, for being part of the Ministry and it is our prayer that Our Lord Jesus opens a way for you to come to Uganda and see for yourself the work in which you are injecting funds.

We had a team of 14 evangelists and went to Gertrude's home village to evangelize. Praise God that 55 adults and 31 children confessed salvation and received Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord of their lives, including a Moslem and his household.

For the 5 days we spent there, we used Ugx.653,000 (£135) mainly for gas (i.e. petrol), eats and drinks.

At the church building, members had the problem of entering the church building through the main entrance so, we have embarked upon the work of building a porch starting with the steps as you can see from the pics. Then after that, painting exterior walls of the building will follow. It's good that interior walls are already painted. We have also been able to construct a ceiling for our office. Last November we bought 20 blue plastic chairs each at Ugx.30,000 (£6.40) preparing for Christmas because normally we get many people on such Christmas days who come to celebrate Christmas.

It is our prayer that God continues to mightily bless you as you cross over to year 2024, wishing you everything good for you in Jesus' mighty name.

Martin & Gertrude.



Church Open Morning

17th February
10:00 - 12:00

With

- Crafts & Games
(for *children and adults*)



- Refreshments
*Drinks, Cake,
etc...*



*A place to meet up on a
Saturday and have some fun
(and a chat of course)*

Good News for All!

'Good News' is a contemporary outreach newspaper used by churches and missions to take the good news about Jesus Christ into communities across the UK.

Every month, Good News reaches thousands of readers with true stories of how God is changing the lives of those who put their trust in his Son, Jesus. Using jargon-free language, it also explains how everyone can find a personal relationship with Jesus.

This such a great resource for people to read and then share with others!!

This month's edition (available to read online at www.goodnews-paper.org.uk/viewlatesteditionspage.htm) has several great articles, including the headline article 'Criminal Halted' - How an 'inner voice' stopped a drug smuggler in his tracks and changed his life

Other contributions include:

- **Love In Action** - The selfless work of Street Angels and Street Pastors
- **True Love** - Young couple find love for each other and love of God
- **Russell Watson** - 'Faith gave me the strength to live'
- **Sister Sledge** - Pop group sisters survived fame with faith
- **Notts County Midfielder** - Dan Crowley thanks Jesus and wins support of manager
- **Champion Boxer** - World champion 'couldn't have done it without God'



The Perfect Offering

As a believer in what Jesus has done for us on the cross, it places me and you in a position that we couldn't in any way do for ourselves. Once we have accepted what God has done for us we are given a new identity that cannot change because it's not based upon what we do or the standards we are trying to keep, but it's based upon the fact that Jesus has done on our behalf.

Hebrews 8:6 ASV says: 'But now he has obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises'.

I was thinking the other day about the two kinds of sacrifices or offerings that the scriptures talk about and the difference between the old and new ones.

In the Old Testament there were animal sacrifices that were offered time and time again and the reason they were offered again and again is because they could never take away sins and get rid of a guilty conscience or make a person clean in God's sight.

So why would God bring in another sacrifice, the offering of his son Jesus, and it does exactly the same as the old offerings in the Old Testament? It doesn't make sense.

There is a massive difference between the old offerings that God required under the law of Moses and the offering that Jesus made for us, as we read in Hebrews, 'he is the mediator of a better covenant'.

The purpose of the old sacrifices was that it reminded us of what we have done wrong, that was the purpose of the law. Paul says in Romans 3:19 ASV: 'Now we know that what things the law says, it speaks to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped and the whole world may become guilty before God'.

That is the purpose of the law, to point where every one of us has gone wrong. This is why God then brought in another offering, not like the ones before, and so the offering that Jesus made on our behalf is not to remind us of what you and i have done wrong, it is there to remind us of what God has put right.

This is called 'The Gift of Righteousness' in Romans 5:17.

So the old offerings makes us aware of what we've done wrong, but this new covenant and the offering that was made on our behalf, now makes us right in God's sight!

Hebrews again remind us in 10:14, 'For by one offering he has perfected forever them that are sanctified'. If you're saying, see you have to be sanctified, then the same offering covers this as well. Look at verse 10 of the same chapter, 'By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of Jesus Christ once for all'.

What more do we need? We have a perfect offering that now and always remind us of our position, our status and our identity because it was all provided by the love of God expressed through what Jesus has done on our behalf.

Remember this truth as you go through today, and when the thoughts come to remind you of your past and where you slipped up or what you have done wrong, be quick to remind yourself what God has done to make you perfect in His sight forever.

Paul Fryatt



Saturday 9th March 10:00 - 12:00

– Please save the date and come along to help

In recent years we have had a great team working together for a morning sprucing up the whole place. We need to keep facilities looking good! Please prepare to come with steps, cloths and buckets at the ready; the more the merrier... and it can even be fun!



We have often ended with a soup lunch together... offers most welcome if you'd like to facilitate this....



In God's Power

As we embark on a new year I think it is good for us to be reminded of the awesome power of God and to bring to mind central affirmations of His Word ... here are some reflections from Neil Anderson:

Our Dynamic Power Source

“in order that you may know ... his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.” (Ephesians 1: 19-21)

In Ephesians 1:19-21, Paul gives us a peek at the dynamic source of our authority in Christ. He explains that the authority at our disposal flows from the reservoir of power, which raised Jesus Christ from the dead and seated Him at the Father's right hand. That power source is so dynamic that Paul used four different Greek words in verse 19 to describe it: power (*dunameos*), working (*energeian*), strength (*kratous*), and might (*ischuos*). Behind the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ lies the mightiest work of power recorded in the Word of God. And the same power that raised Christ from the dead and defeated Satan is the power available to us to overcome the works of Satan in our daily lives.

In verse 21 Paul opens our eyes to the expansive scope of Christ's

authority that is: "**far above all rule and authority and power and dominion ...**". Think about the most powerful and influential political or military leaders in the world. Imagine the most feared terrorists, crime kingpins and drug barons. Think about Satan and all the power of darkness marshalled under his command. **Jesus' authority is not only above all these human and spiritual authorities past, present and future, but He is far above them.** We share the same position because we are seated with Christ in the heavenly realms, which enables us to live in freedom and victory over demonic intrusion and influence.

Don't be deceived. You are not under Satan's power or subject to his authority. You are in Christ, above all demonic rule, authority and power.

Reigning with You, Lord - what a liberating thought! I praise You today for the power You share with me.

One True And Living God ~ Apart From Christ I Can Do Nothing

"I am the Lord your God ... You shall have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20:2-3)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5)

These doctrinal affirmations will help you renew your mind and take your stand on the truth. I recommend that you read these Scriptural affirmations aloud at least once a week in the coming year.

I recognize that there is only one true and living God, who exists as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is worthy of all honour, praise and worship as the Creator and Sustainer, the Beginning and End of all things. (**Revelation 4:11 & 5:9-10; Isaiah 43:1,7&21**)

I recognize Jesus Christ as the Messiah, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. I believe that He came to destroy the

works of Satan and that He disarmed the rulers and authorities, having triumphed over them. **(John 1:1,14; 1 John 3:8; Colossians 2:15)**

I believe that God has proven His love for me, because when I was still a sinner, Christ died for me. I believe that He delivered me from the domain of darkness and transferred me to His kingdom, and in Him I have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **(Romans 5:8; Colossians 1:13,14)**

I believe that I am now a child of God. I believe that I was saved by the grace of God through faith, that it was a gift and not the result of any works on my part. **(1 John 3:1-3; Ephesians 2:8)**

I choose to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. I put no confidence in the flesh, for the weapons of my warfare are not of the flesh. I put on the whole armour of God, and I resolve to stand firm in my faith and resist the evil one. **(Ephesians 6:10; Philippians 3:3; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:10-17)**

I believe that Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth and that He is the head over all rule and authority. **(Matthew 28:18; Colossians 2:10)**

I believe that Satan and his demons are subject to me in Christ because I am a member of Christ's body. I therefore obey the command to resist the devil, and I command him in the name of Christ to leave my presence. **(Ephesians 1:19-23; James 4:7)**

I believe that apart from Christ I can do nothing, so I declare my dependence on Him. I choose to abide in Christ in order to bear much fruit and glorify the Lord. **(John 15:5)**

I announce to Satan that Jesus is my Lord, and I reject any counterfeit gifts or works of Satan in my life. **(1 Corinthians 12:3)**

I believe that the truth will set me free and that walking in the light is the only path of fellowship. Therefore, I stand against Satan's deception by taking every thought captive in obedience to Christ. **(John 8:32; 1 John 1:7; 2 Corinthians 10:5)**

I declare that the Bible is the only authoritative standard. **(2 Timothy 3:15-17)**

I choose to speak the truth in love. (**Ephesians 4:15**)

I choose to present my body as an instrument of righteousness, a living and holy sacrifice, and I renew my mind by the living Word of God in order that I may prove that the will of God is good, acceptable and perfect. (**Romans 6:13 & 12:1-2**)

Lord, inscribe on my heart the truth of who You are and what You have done to secure my eternal salvation.

Father God, I affirm that my life and sustenance come from You, and apart from You I can do nothing.

Neil Anderson

Freedom in Christ Ministries

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We were recently reminded by Jane and Nigel Cox of the power of speaking the Word of God and our praises of Him out loud. Why not take some of these each week and proclaim them orally (spoken)?

Father God, thank you that in Your mercy, while we were still sinners, you sent Your Son to save us. Thank you that in Christ we are Secure, Accepted and Significant. Help us to proclaim Your Word aloud and to remain in Christ that we may bear much fruit for Your Kingdom.

Robin

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Open the Book – Zechariah

At St Blasius we are following themes that are being covered by the school curriculum. On 28th November it was ‘**Endurance**’. Having presented the story of John baptising Jesus last time, and having introduced the children to John’s father, Zechariah, this time, we jumped back in time to present the events around John’s birth. We instructed the children that, as Roy read each name and held up the respective name card, to call out either ‘Zechariah’ or ‘John’ on cue. We had 8 children dressed in costumes, sitting on the floor around a low table for “God’s people were waiting. They were waiting for the special one God had promised to send them.”



“Zechariah was burning incense in the temple

when an angel appeared. The old man was terrified. The angel said to him: ... 'My name is Gabriel ... I stand in God's Presence. And He, Himself, has sent me to tell you this good news. But just so you know that I am telling you the truth, you will not be able to speak until all this comes to pass.'”

Then Zechariah stumbled out of the temple and four boy children (*represented in the picture opposite by the backdrop Roy is holding up*) who had been waiting outside, wanted to know why Zechariah couldn't speak.

When John was born, and the family objected to his being called John, Zechariah beckoned for (a child to bring) a tablet. As soon as Zechariah wrote “his name is John” he was enabled to speak.

“The family” (represented by four girl children) “was even more amazed, and everyone in the hill country of Judea who heard about it praised God and wondered what he had in store for this child.

Zechariah knew. And with his newfound voice, and the help of the Holy Spirit, he shouted out a poem: ... 'You will be his prophet, my son. And you will go before him. And you will prepare the way as he comes to save....'

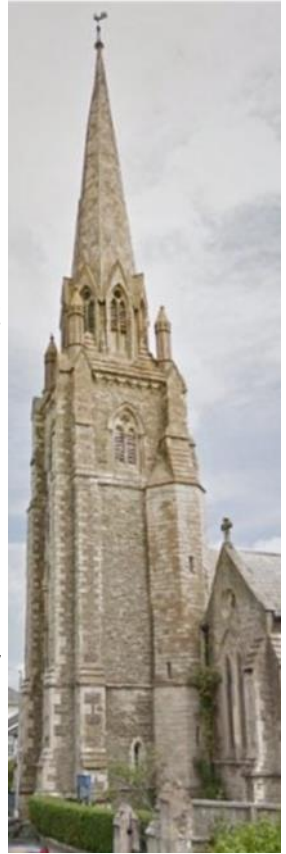


The Gift that keeps on Giving

Even when a church building no longer houses His church, God may still use it to serve the community. In 2014, with only a dozen people left in the congregation, Holy Trinity closed and was taken over by the Christian Charity, Aspire Ryde. The weekly footfall, for children's soft play, craft activities, gardening, numerous interest groups and free lunch most weekdays, exceeds 2,000.

The Isle of Wight council has commissioned Aspire to provide even more services through Living Well, Early Help. Doctors can give a 'social prescription' to patients, advising them to contact Aspire. The aim is to help people stay well, independent and connected with their local community, thus lessening the need for expensive 'crisis' intervention. LWEH has been visiting our own warm space, The Well, on some Wednesdays.

You may have read 'The Mystery of the Maybricks' in the January edition of *The Beacon*,



advertising a history walk led by Julie C to raise funds for Aspire. She also felts hedgehogs and squirrels which come in a presentation box and are not suitable for children. The price reflects the fact that they are made from merino wool and the fleeces of local alpaca, lama and sheep. Do contact Julie if you are interested in supporting Aspire by purchasing one.

As mentioned, by 2014 there were only a dozen regular attenders so it



was closed and the congregation moved. A charity, Aspire Ryde, was set up. Numerous community groups and activities were established and the building purchased. Families entitled to free school meals are offered 'Free Food & Fun' during holidays. Support is available for those struggling with mental health issues and addictions, plus training to boost confidence and help

people secure employment.

Within two years, Aspire received The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

The old church building needs extensive repairs and upgrading to make it warm and accessible. Aspire also owns a large shop - Aspire Ryde Community Hub (ARCH). Part of ARCH is being transformed into accommodation for those moving on from homelessness; however, there is still room for craft and furniture-upcycling workshops as well as bicycle repairs and art exhibitions. Donations and the sale of refurbished items make Aspire's work possible.



Prayers Requested for the 2025 URC Prayer Handbook



Your prayers for the 2025 Prayer Handbook, with the theme Immersive Joy, are now invited.

Prayer Handbook Editors, the Rev Susan McCoan and the Rev Stephen Ansa-Addo, URC Ministers at Ealing and Wembley Park, and Reading and Hungerford respectively, invite you to consider the theme and the ways it relates to the church and its life and work, as well as your personal experiences.

As well as the usual Lectionary-based prayers, there are prayers for everyday and extraordinary use.

Wherever you are, wherever you have been, whatever the journey which moves you to write, we would love to hear from you.

You are invited to write as you would pray – no special words or format is needed – to allow us the privilege of sharing your prayers with others in the URC and beyond.

You can submit a maximum of four prayers to be considered, which must be your own – original work for which you have copyright. Materials you have written for local church use, or prayers for private or corporate use can also be submitted for consideration.

While the prayers can draw on any relevant and topical theme, you are asked to avoid direct reference to specific/immediate events which may cause the prayers to become quickly dated.

You don't have to fit your prayers to the Lectionary, but if you wish to do so, please indicate what week or readings you have used.

To help with formatting, prayers should be a maximum length of 20 lines, each line having no more than 60 characters including spaces and punctuation. Please give each prayer a title.

The editors look forward to receiving and reading all submissions but cannot guarantee that every prayer will be included in the final handbook. Copyright for any prayers used will be held jointly between the author and the URC.

The deadline for submissions is 24th February 2024, and you will be informed by late March whether your prayer(s) will be included. If your prayer is to be used, we will engage with you as follows:

The first edit of your writing and its return to you will be made to by mid to late April for you to accept, consider and address any suggested changes or rewrites. Submitting prayers for consideration includes your permission for them to be edited.

Your final re-worked version will be expected by early May so the Editors can have the final text ready by the end of June. We thank you in advance for your thoughtful and prayerful writing.

Please submit your prayers, or any questions about the prayer handbook or the process, by email to: phb@urc.org.uk.

New Year All Island Worship Event

- Friday 2nd February at 19:15

at True Vine Church

26a High St, Newport PO30 1SS

Come! Worship Jesus together

See what He is doing through his people on our Island!

Pray The Wight

- Friday 15th March at 19:30

The Wight Church Team are leading another prayer gathering for the whole church to come together and this will focus on youth work.

This time we'll be at Newport Methodist Church, Quay Street PO30 5BA



23,655 Children Received Good News & Great Joy

The **Big Shoebox Challenge** has ended, and we are so thrilled to share that, thanks to the generous support of many people, over 23,000 children in need alone received a shoebox gift that was donated online last Christmas!



That's over 23,000 children who will hear about Jesus and the hope of the Gospel, perhaps for the first time.

Operation Christmas Child gift-filled shoeboxes go to difficult places. From densely populated inner cities to deserts and jungles, local churches are using these gifts to share the Gospel - even where the Name of Jesus has never been heard. Working with these ministry partners, Samaritan's Purse aims to follow the Apostle Paul's example and preach Christ where He is not yet known (Romans 15:20-21). Together, despite formidable challenges, the Lord is opening doors to deliver Good News and great joy to children in need around the world!



Samaritan's Purse thank God for all that he is doing through the work of Operation Christmas Child, and pray that, as thousands of children are blessed with the gifts you have sent, you would also be blessed.

Thank you for your heart to bless children in need - since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to over 209 million children in over 170 countries.

But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

LIONHEART IS ON THE MOVE

LIONHEART 
FESTIVAL

**TICKETS ON SALE
IN THE NEW YEAR**



**URBAN
SAINTS**
WESTBROOK

**JOIN US AT WESTBROOK
26-28TH JULY 2024**

LIONHEARTFESTIVAL.CO.UK

Care Prayer Diary

The new edition – 21st January to 20th April 2024 – is now available at the back of the church, or online at care.org.uk/our-publications/prayer-diary.

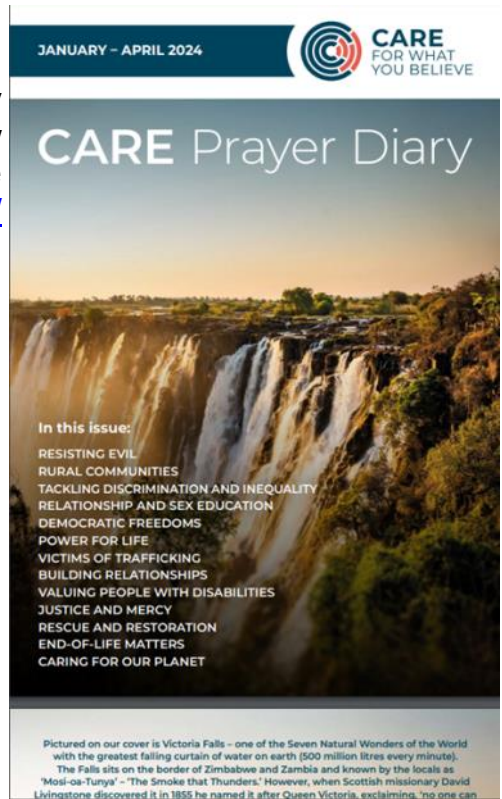
Items covered are:

- Resisting Evil
- Rural Communities
- Tackling Discrimination and Inequality
- Relationship and Sex Education
- Democratic Freedoms
- Power for Life
- Victims Of Trafficking
- Building Relationships
- Valuing People With Disabilities
- Justice and Mercy
- Rescue and Restoration
- End-Of-Life Matters
- Caring For Our Planet

Do help yourself to this valuable and informative resource, published by **CARE**, who for 40 years has been a voice for truth in the public square and whose mission is to bring a uniquely Christian insight to the policies and laws that affect our lives.

Please **pray** for this vital ministry and support it if you are able.

Source: [CARE](https://care.org.uk)



Standing Firm in the Faith

In many parts of the world, our brothers and sisters face daily persecution for their faith. We have been greatly blessed in our nation to have freedom to worship, but as we look at the situation of faith in the UK, we must be aware that the wonderful Judeo-Christian foundations we have had are being steadily eroded. The Christian Institute, along with other Christian ministries, has been raised up by the Lord, "For such a time as this," as they seek to stand for Biblical truths.

To quote them:

"If we remain silent, we embolden those opposed to a Biblical worldview to go even further in challenging God's good design for everyone."

We have just received their **winter newsletter** with updates on their various campaigns - do take one or read it online at www.christian.org.uk/resource/newsletter-winter-2023/ - and **please pray**.

On **Friday 9th February** the House of Lords will debate a private member's bill to criminalise so-called 'conversion therapy' across the UK, which if passed would be disastrous for free speech and Gospel freedom.

Please pray this bill will not be passed. If you wish to know more about this, do ask and do take a copy of the Christian Institute's newsletter at the back of church (or read it online). Writing to MPs and members of the House of Lords is very valuable.

Also covered are:

- Online Safety Bill becomes law
- New extremism definition could pose threat to religious freedom

Again, do ask if you'd like to know details.

Jane H

Source: [Christian Institute](#)

Please Help Us to Make a Difference

Barnabas Aid are calling on supporters to sign their petition to end the anti-Christian violence that is sweeping across sub-Saharan Africa.

To quote them:

“Many tens of thousands of our brothers and sisters have been slaughtered in the last two decades as terrorists wage a brutal and genocidal war against African Christian communities.

The worst-affected area is northern and Middle Belt Nigeria, where Boko Haram and other militant groups rampage freely. Countless Christian villages have been attacked, often at night, the buildings and crops burned, the people kidnapped, injured and killed – unless they manage to flee.

Many pastors and worship services at church buildings are also targeted. The Nigerian security forces seem unable to protect vulnerable Christian citizens in these areas of the country, and the violence shows no sign of abating. Fresh attacks are occurring almost every week.

The violence afflicting Nigerian Christians for a generation has spread in recent years to other African countries. Thousands of Christians have been killed by affiliates of Islamic State (IS, ISIS, ISIL, Daesh) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mozambique. Even Uganda has suffered some terrible anti-Christian violence. And more of our brothers and sisters have been killed in places such as Cameroon, Kenya, Tanzania and the West African countries of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

Our African brothers and sisters show great resilience, courage and faith in the face of the unrelenting onslaught. But can we, with God’s help, give them the hope of better protection?

We recognise that other groups are targeted as well as Christians. We acknowledge the difficulties faced by African governments and the wider international community in combatting this form of violence. Yet, we believe that more can and must be done to protect these vulnerable communities.

Our petition urges the UK, Australian and New Zealand governments to request institutions such as the African Union and its legislature the Pan-African Parliament to consider this urgent situation. Given that Nigeria, Mozambique and Uganda are all Commonwealth countries, the petition requests that the matter be discussed at the October 2024 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

For more details see our report at www.barnabasaid.org/gb/resources/africa-petition/ - the anti-Christian nature of this violence is often omitted in media coverage.“

Please pray:

- **For Christians** – who have experienced violent attacks, for the families of martyrs, for those who have been forced to flee and for those who have been kidnapped.
- **For Christian Ministries** – who are working to provide basic food and medical supplies, trauma counselling and training for local pastors to share the hope of the Gospel.
- **For Governments** – to act justly, to provide proper representation to Christians in their nations and to fulfil their duty to protect all its' subjects.
- **For the terrorist groups and other militants** – who are targeting Christians to stop their violence and turn to God for forgiveness.
- **For Christian Communities** – to trust in God's faithfulness and that in these uncertain times they would see many coming to faith.

The petition will be available to be signed on the trolley at the back of the church or online at www.barnabasaid.org/gb/resources/africa-petition/. Do please ask if you'd like to know more.

Blessings

Jane H

Source: [Barnabas Aid](#) and [Release International](#)

FOCUS

**on our Christian Brothers and Sisters being
persecuted for their faith**

In North Korea, X counts the cost of following
Jesus every day*

North Korea is the hardest place to follow Jesus. It's **Number One** in the Open Doors' World Watch List for 2024.

X's story explains exactly why.

X vividly remembers the moment she saw her father for the last time. North Korean security agents had ransacked their house. They didn't find what they were looking for in the house – but they did discover something by digging deep in the garden.

“They found the book, wrapped in plastic,” she remembers. “One of the policemen came inside, holding the book. He kicked over our small table as we cowered in the corner, flinging dishes everywhere, and threw the book down at my father's feet.”

She pauses. The memory is still painful.

Her father's secret book

X never learned precisely where her father went. At the time, she didn't even know what the 'secret book' was. “I didn't see what was so bad about it,” she says. “My father loved to read me stories and sayings out of the book – about a wise man who sat on a mountain and began to teach. Why would a lesson about kindness be so dangerous in North Korea?” Only years later did she realise it was a Bible.

In some ways, X was 'fortunate'. When a Bible is found in the home of a North Korean, it usually means the whole family is in terrible danger. As Open Doors secret fieldworker Brother Simon* explains, “North Korean Christians actually risk their physical lives – not only

for themselves, but for their whole family. Because when they practise their Christian activities and one of them is exposed as a Christian, the whole family gets the same punishment. Sometimes that means a whole family is killed or banished to political camps.”

X was determined to find out what her father’s secret had been. What had meant so much to him that he was willing to count such a severe cost?

X finds Jesus on the radio

But there was one other hidden thing in X’s house that the police agents hadn’t found: her father’s radio.

“He wanted to know if there was anywhere that had food,” recalls X. “He thought maybe China had some to offer, and that he could sneak over the border.” After her father was taken, X started listening too – hoping to find a source of food. One evening she was turning the dial and found a new station. She realised, with a start, that they were talking about the same ‘wise man’ her father had told her about. The one who was in the secret book. They called Him ‘Jesus’.

“From then on, I listened to the station every chance I got,” she says. “I heard other things about Jesus: ‘Man does not live by bread alone’, ‘The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ’ and the most amazing thing of all: ‘For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but will have everlasting life.’

“As I listened, I became more and more convinced. This Jesus was the great teacher that my father had been trying to tell me about. Jesus wanted to be my Lord and Saviour – and I wanted to follow Him, in the same way my father had.”

Taught to hate Christianity

It can be almost impossible for a parent to teach their child about Jesus in North Korea. It comes with enormous risk. Children are often trained by their teachers to look out for any clues of Christianity, and encouraged to inform on their parents.

“According to the messages sent from North Korean believers, their

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main concern is how they can pass on their Christian faith to their children, the next generation of the North Korean church,” shares Brother Simon. “But it’s hard – North Koreans have been taught to hate Christianity their whole lives. They are officially taught that Christians, especially pastors and missionaries, are spies or enemies. Christians are targeted, and must be rooted out and eradicated in North Korea.”

This indoctrination has to be unlearned. X soon began to see Jesus speaking to her through the verses she heard on the radio – and that, far from being enemies of North Koreans, Christians were called to love their neighbours.

“I’d come home, exhausted from the work in the fields, my heart still hurting at the loss of my father, and I’d think about the poem I’d heard on the radio: ‘The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want’,” X says. “I’d see a neighbour whom I knew was hungry, and I heard the words of Jesus: ‘Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Food shortages

These words from Psalm 23 and Matthew 25 are particularly significant to anyone living in North Korea, where extreme poverty threatens huge numbers of people. “The main problem is the need for daily life necessities to survive,” says Brother Simon. “Absolute poverty has flourished throughout the country.” Any food that does enter the country is given to the elite and the army, leaving ordinary people – particularly those in rural areas – in dire need of food. The UN special rapporteur for human rights in North Korea has estimated that 42% of North Koreans are malnourished due to food shortages.

Many fear a repeat of the ‘Arduous March’ of the 1990s – a famine in which up to 3.5 million North Koreans died of starvation. While the situation has improved a little since pandemic restrictions were eased, and more food has got into the country through official or unofficial routes, believers are often at the end of the line when it comes to distribution of this food. Anyone known to be from a Christian family – if they somehow avoid execution or a prison camp – is treated as a member of the ‘hostile class’. That means they have limited access to food, jobs or homes.

Remembering Jesus's words about helping her brothers and sisters, X has made extraordinary sacrifices. "As I continued to learn more about Jesus, I also found that my life was changing in other ways. I was still hungry, but I started to share my food," she says. "I knew I could give up some of my food to my neighbours who didn't have a garden. I hoped this might show them in some way that Jesus loved them."

No freedom

X shows Jesus's love with generosity that comes at great cost, given the dire state of the country – but has to keep her faith secret, in order to survive. Otherwise, she might end up like the tens of thousands of Christians held in labour camps across the country. There is no freedom of religion or belief at all in North Korea. For almost all of the past 20 years, it's been the place where Christians face the worst persecution in the world.

"I know that it would be dangerous to tell anyone about Jesus," says X. "Our leaders don't want us to worship anyone or anything besides them. I've realised that's why my father was taken – they saw he had a Lord that was bigger than our country's leaders."

A growing church

Despite this terrible cost, more and more North Koreans are encountering Jesus and deciding to follow Him. Even in this desperate situation, the church is growing! Some, like X, are hearing about Him through Open Doors' radio ministry. This is operated outside of the country, reaching thousands of secret North Korean believers every day. North Korea only officially sells radios tuned to state frequencies, so people must find radios on the black market or get radios through Open Doors' secret networks in another country.

Daily broadcasts include Scripture reading, Bible studies and more. They help disciple and encourage the underground church in North Korea, while sometimes also being the first time someone hears the name of Jesus at all.

Believers in North Korea even want to join in prayer for other persecuted Christians. "They asked us to produce a radio programme about the persecuted church," shares Brother Simon.

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“They cannot materially help persecuted churches – but they can join by praying with their brothers and sisters for persecuted churches.”

Support those counting the cost

But the North Korean church cannot flourish if it is on the brink of starvation. “The first prayer request is that we help North Korean Christians physically survive,” says Brother Simon. “Through our networks in another country, we distribute food and medicine, especially in wintertime.”

Through these underground networks, Open Doors secret workers are currently sustaining 100,000 North Korean believers alive with vital food and aid, shelter and discipleship training. That’s only possible with the help and prayers of people like you.

“I’ll continue to learn more about Jesus and how I can follow Him more closely – and I’ll continue to be salt to the people around me,” says X. She has so little, but is determined to do what she can to show Jesus’s love to the desperate people around her.

Today, will you show the same kindness and generosity as X? Will you help keep believers alive as they count the greatest cost for following Jesus?

**Name changed.*

X’s story is based on several true accounts of life in North Korea, to protect any specific person from being identified.

Please Pray

- That God will continue to sustain thousands of North Korean Christians with food and aid through Open Doors secret networks in another country
- For X to have opportunities to share the love of Christ with her neighbours, and to stay strong in her faith
- For strength, encouragement and even joy for all Christians facing extreme persecution around.

Put simply, the persecution of Christians is worsening

Source: [Open Doors](#) - used by permission

Support Recycling

Have you ever wondered what to do with the various plastic tubs containing chocolates and sweets? Well, here is the answer!



Pub and brewery company Greene King is running 'Tub2Pub', a recycling campaign to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and to recycle plastics.

We're all guilty of indulging in chocolate, sweets and crackers over the festive period, and in the UK we are buying tens of millions of these plastic tubs every year!

Make sure your tubs don't go to waste and bring your clean, empty plastic confectionery and cracker tubs to any Greene King managed site from 1st January – 11th February 2024 to be recycled.

Simply leave your tubs with a Greene King staff member at the bar or welcome station within one of their locations (see below for details of Island locations).

After 11th February, all tubs will be collected and taken to a plastic reprocessing centre where they're shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers to use in place of virgin plastics. All money raised from the sale of Tub2Pub plastics will be given directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.

For more information, go to www.tub2pub.co.uk/

You can drop your clean tubs at any of the following places on the IoW:

- The Crab, 94 High Street, Shanklin (in the old village)
- Ryde Castle Hotel, Esplanade, Ryde
- Hare and Hounds, Downend Road, Newport (next to Robin Hill)
- The Folly, Folly Lane, Whippingham, East Cowes
- The Fountain Inn, High Street, Cowes



Dates For Your Diary

Day	Date	Time	Details
Fri	2 nd Feb	19:15	All Island Worship Event at True Vine Church
Sat	3 rd Feb	08:30	Men's Breakfast at Viv's Cooking
Sun	4 th Feb	10:30 17:00	Morning Communion Service Shared Worship at URC
Fri	9 th Feb	19:00	Elders Meeting
Sun	11 th Feb	10:30 17:00	Sheilagh speaking – Brian at Ryde Shared Worship at St John's Church Hall
Fri	16 th Feb	19:30	Lent Prayer Gathering
Sat	17 th Feb	10:00 14:00	Church Open Morning Exploring Church Membership
Sun	25 th Feb	10:30	Encounter Café with Malc & Peter Wells
Sat	9 th Mar	10:00	Spring Clean
Fri	15 th Mar	19:30	Pray the Wight - Newport Methodist Church
Thu	21 st Mar	19:30	Annual Church Meeting
Sat	23 rd Mar	15:00	Messy Church
Sun	24 th Mar	10:30	Encounter Café – Palm Sunday
Thu	28 th Mar	19:00	Maundy Supper & Communion at Ryde
Fri	29 th Mar		Good Friday
Sun	31 st Mar		Easter Celebrations

The (annual) Christmas Trivia Quiz - answers

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. King William I | Everyday (by Wizzard) |
| 2. Shepherds | 12. 7 |
| 3. Take part in a census | 13. Holiday Inn (in 1942) |
| 4. Galette des Rois | 14. Dundee Cake |
| 5. Germany 1902 | 15. Do They Know It's Christmas |
| 6. Tiny tots | 16. Cupid |
| 7. Thanksgiving | 17. AD 336 |
| 8. Austria | 18. 1611 |
| 9. 13 | 19. Canada in 1898 |
| 10. Feliz Navidad | 20. Germany |
| 11. I Wish it Could Be Christmas | |

Last Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Answers

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1. France | 7. 1968 |
| 2. 1815 | 8. Kenneth Grahame |
| 3. Chişinău | 9. A Post Box was installed in Wakefield Post Office wall in 1809, first free standing box was in Guernsey in 1852 |
| 4. Abona | |
| 5. Lackland | |
| 6. Chausey | 10. Shepherd Neame |

Connection Quiz Answers

1. Quebec.
2. Lima.
3. Oscar.
4. Romeo.
5. Connection: they are all words in the NATO Phonetic Alphabet.
6. This issue's cover photo is from: Falaise in Normandie, France. The statue is of Guillaume le Conquérant, (aka William the Conqueror or king William I) who was born in Falaise.



The Puzzle Pages

Sudoku

A numerical placement puzzle!

To solve it you need to fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Enjoy!

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

1		2			3			4		5	
						6					7
8										9	
						10					
		11	12			13				14	
15	16							17	18		
				19							
20			21					22			
			23			24					
25					26		27		28		
29							30				

Last month's Sudoku - how did you do?

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

Across

- 1 The month of lovers? (8)
- 6 Plant synonymous with the desert (6)
- 8 ♪ Don't Cry For Me... (9)
- 9 Information Technology *initials* (2)
- 10 Person that brings in an income (6)
- 11 Nomads' circular tent (4)
- 13 Chemical symbol for Tin (2)
- 14 Slang for thanks (2)
- 15 Exempti Gratia *initials* (2)
- 17 Present tense third-person singular of be (2)
- 19 June 1815 battle in Belgium (8)
- 20 1974 Eurovision winners (4)
- 22 Atlantic military alliance founded 1949 *initials* (4)

- 23 Person who makes bread (5)
- 25 3.142 (2)
- 26 Used on brass instruments, the editor's Bb Bass has four (6)
- 29 Portable enclosure for a baby or small child to have fun in (7)
- 30 Capital of 1 Down (5)

Down

- 1 This country's current president is Emmanuel Macron (6)
- 2 Madness' trousers were this in 1980 (5)
- 3 Former ITV children's programme about art (3 6)
- 4 Arachnid with a stinging tail (8)
- 5 Shh! (5)
- 6 City where William I is buried (4)
- 7 Capital of Alsace, and home to the ECHR (10)
- 12 Not down (2)
- 13 Ford saloon car 1982-1993, it replaced the Cortina (6)
- 16 Angel who visited Mary (7)
- 18 Flies or rises high in the air (5)
- 21 Quarr is one, Westminster has one (5)
- 24 Flat and smooth (4)
- 27 A cat likes to curl up on one (3)
- 28 You hear with one (3)

Can You Guess The Year?

- The Ford Escort car is introduced to replace the Anglia.
- Harold Wilson endorses the 'I'm Backing Britain' campaign.
- West Bromwich Albion win the FA Cup for the fifth time
- And UK No. 1s included:
 - Scaffold with '*Lily the Pink*'
 - Mary Hopkin with '*Those Were the Days*'
 - Des O'Connor with '*I Pretend*'
 - Cliff Richard with '*Congratulations*'

Answer next issue

This Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Questions

1. Who won the F1 Driver's Championship in 1996?
2. What was the predecessor to the Euro?
3. When was the RNLI founded?
4. What's the capital of the Isle of Man?
5. Who was King George V's wife?
6. Who founded the '*Abbaye aux Hommes*' in Caen?
7. Who wrote the '*War of the Worlds*'?
8. Who created '*Astérix the Gaul*'?
9. On the periodic table, which element is Fe?
10. Who designed the WW2 RAF aeroplane the Avro Lancaster?

Answers next issue

Please note that the **deadline** for contributions for the next magazine is:

Sunday 18th February

Contributions can be emailed at anytime up to the deadline day to the editor at:

surc.thelink@btinternet.com

Last Issue's Solutions

- Guess the year: it was 2015

- Last issue's crossword ↓

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

Sunday Service

- Morning** **10:30 Morning Worship** in church
Broadcast live on YouTube
- ➔ **Holy Communion** on 1st Sunday of each month
- ➔ **All Age service** on last Sunday of each month

Weekday Activities

- Monday** 15:00 **Prayer for Israel** (see [page 4](#))
- Tuesday** 14:00 **Bible Bite** ministry in church
Broadcast live on YouTube
- 19:30 **Prayer Meeting** on Zoom (see [page 4](#))
- Wednesday** 11:00 **Living Well Together** (*aka 'The Well'*)
- Friday** 10:00 **CatURpillars Toddler Group**
- Saturday** 10:30 **Virtual Coffee Morning** on Zoom
 – a chance to catch up and have a chat

Details of any other services/activities that we hold will be posted:

- ➔ [inside the church](#)
- ➔ [on our Facebook page](#)
- ➔ [and on our website](#)

Minister: **Rev Brian Harley**



10 Dracaena Gardens, Shanklin PO37 7JQ



01983 862485



brianharley58@gmail.com

Day off: *Monday*

Secretary: **Robin Wightman**



robinwightman@aol.com

Shanklin URC is a member of the **Evangelical Alliance**

www.shanklinurc.co.uk

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