

# St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

# April 2024

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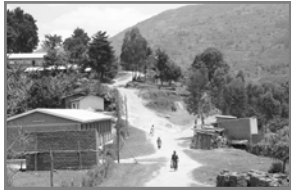
£10.00 for 10 issues a year



**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship.**

*Romans 12:1*





# Shyira Trust

Registered Charity Number 1118979

Hon President: Prof Allan Hobson MBE

Serving the people of Rwanda, Africa



relieving poverty

advancing education

preserving and protecting good health

## Kivu Diocese

**Aim:** To support Bishop Augustin's 5 point programme

- Palliative care in the community
- Church leadership courses
- Development of job creation (entrepreneurship) among youth and women
- Fighting malnutrition and stunting
- Supporting home and family life



Shyira District Hospital

## Mothers' Union

**Aim:** To support MU members in serving their communities

**Achieved:**

- Members supported with bedding and kitchen utensils
- Training of 25 MU trainers from all over the Diocese
- Successful Revolving Goat Loan project

**Challenges:**

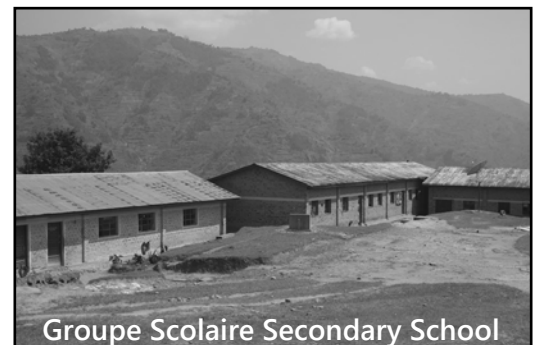
- To extend the MU support across Kivu Diocese
- To work through the Gisenyi MU to help the most needy parts of the Diocese



Lake Kivu

## Primary Schools

**Aim:** To support school ministry by providing equipment, school materials and evangelistic outreach



Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

## Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

**Aim:** To support needy students in Shyira

## How YOU can help

See our website: <http://www.shyiratrust.org.uk>

Email us for further information: [shyira-06@shyiratrust.org.uk](mailto:shyira-06@shyiratrust.org.uk)

Donations may be sent to: Shyira Trust, Secretary: Ken Davies  
53 Stapleton Road, Formby, Liverpool L37 2YT

Donate online: <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/shyiratrust>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shyiratrust>



**Vicar – Revd Dr Matt Davis**



From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

With Easter Sunday on 31<sup>st</sup> March, the start of April is school holiday time. I like holidays: they're a time to slow down and rest amidst the busyness of life, and also to catch up on activities we might not otherwise have the time to do. The anticipation of an upcoming holiday can be delightful: planning what we're going to do (or not do!) and where we're going to go (or not go!) and who we're going to see (or not see!). Unfortunately, holidays don't always turn out the way we want. Plans can change, unexpected situations can arise, or problems can occur like getting ill. I think it's doubly miserable when we get ill during a holiday: not only are we unwell, but we're also missing out on doing that thing we'd been anticipating for so long.

Sometimes we get ill while we're on holiday, other times we can get ill *because* we're on holiday. I'm not talking about strange food in another part of the world giving us an upset stomach. What I mean is how our bodies can go into shutdown mode: we get overly tired and sleepy, maybe even a cold or persistent headache too. It's as if our bodies spot us starting to rest, so they decide they have an excuse to stop us completely and force us to go almost into hibernation mode. It can be frustrating getting ill during time off over Christmas or Easter, but I wonder if it is our bodies protecting us amidst hectic lifestyles, stopping us from experiencing actual exhaustion.

Tiredness is something we all regularly experience, but sometimes life can get too much for too long and lead to burnout or breakdown. Sometimes past illnesses can leave us with life altering fatigue. Sometimes our bodies can seem to age faster than those around us. A number of years ago, I went through a difficult season of life and was unable to do much. At that time the verses at the end of Isaiah 40 took on new meaning:

*Do you not know? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.  
He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.  
Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.  
(Isaiah 40:28–31)*

(Continued on Page 2)

Joint Editors: Margaret Cooke (e-mail: [macooke29@gmail.com](mailto:macooke29@gmail.com)) and Ken Davies  
(e-mail: [kendavies1989@gmail.com](mailto:kendavies1989@gmail.com))

Illustrator: Joan MacDonald

St. Luke's Web Site: <http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk>

St. Luke's Facebook Page: [facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby](https://www.facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby)

Whether we're a bit more tired than usual, or suffering from exhaustion, these words can give us hope. The Lord is the Creator: he isn't limited like us and so doesn't get tired like us. Who better to trust?! The Lord is the one who can give strength to those who hope in him, and who *does* give strength to those who hope in him. If you're feeling weary, have you tried putting your hope in him? He is the one who can give us hope for the future and transform our present.

With every blessing,

**Matt**

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## CHURCH REGISTER

### Funerals:

24<sup>th</sup> February – Lynda Lynch (burial of ashes)  
4<sup>th</sup> March – Peggy Davies (burial of ashes)  
11<sup>th</sup> March – Kenneth Plant  
11<sup>th</sup> March – Maud Birch (burial of ashes)  
12<sup>th</sup> March – Barbara Snook  
27<sup>th</sup> March – Hazel Dawes

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## DATES AND NOTES

**SERVICES** – Services for April p10.

**PRAYER CHAIN** – Please contact **Philip Lowe** if you know of someone who would appreciate prayer support ([p.h.lowe50@btinternet.com](mailto:p.h.lowe50@btinternet.com)).

**PASTORAL SUPPORT** – If you, or someone you know would appreciate a visit from our pastoral team please telephone Hillary Griffin (871846) or Jean Watts (877662) (Pastoral Care Co-Ordinators). Jean is also Vulnerable Adults Officer.

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT** – If you would like to financially support the work of St Luke's, offerings may be placed on the plate near the back of church. There is also a card reader by the entrance. If you would prefer to donate from your bank account, there are various ways including the Parish Giving Scheme ([parishgiving.org.uk](http://parishgiving.org.uk)) or ask Matt or the Wardens if you need any further information.

**YOUTH ALPHA** – started Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 7.45pm for secondary school students. See Matt for details.

**WHAT IF COURSE?** – started Mon 11<sup>th</sup> March (5 weeks). Speak to Matt for details.

**SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN** – see p7. Ongoing!

**LENT PROJECT/S** - £560 was donated in aid of the school in Lima (Peru) and the primary and secondary schools along with the Mothers' Union in Shyira (Rwanda) – £280 each for Lima and Shyira. Thank you to all who made donations.

**ST GEORGE'S DAY** – Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**APCM** – Wed 8<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm in Meeting Room.

# NOTICES

## **It's that time again!**

We have started the annual revision of the church electoral roll. This is done so that an up-to-date list is ready for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. You still have time to put your name forward if you are not on the list (this can be seen in church), but the applications should be in by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

To be eligible you have to be -

- *16 or over*
- *baptized and either*
- *a member of the Church of England and resident in the parish (if not living in the parish you need to have attended regularly for 6 months), or*
- *a member of another church which subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and also declare yourself to be a member of the C of E and have attended regularly for 6 months.*

The electoral roll shows how many people feel that St. Luke's is **their** church family.

Don't worry, it doesn't commit you to anything at all, but it does give you the right to stand for the Church Council, be a sides-person and/or warden if elected.

If you have any questions, please ask -

**Jean Cox - Electoral Roll Officer**

## **Tuesday Lunch**

Soup/sandwiches/cake & company, 12-2pm on Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> April in Meeting Room. Donations for lunch welcome. NOT on the 16<sup>th</sup> due to unavailability of the Meeting Room.

## **Open Door Saturdays in Spring - and Green Fingers!**

The dates at the moment are:

April 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>,

May 11<sup>th</sup> (when we hope to have a **plant sale**) and 25<sup>th</sup>,

June 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Re the **plant sale** – it will be no good if we don't have any plants, so ..... get some seeds and start planting, then bring along your surplus on the 11<sup>th</sup> May and we can raise some money for the church.

(The Gifts to Funds Sat on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb raised £230 for church funds-thank you to all involved!)

We are open from 10 'til 12 for tea, coffee, cake and a chat. Why not bring your crafting along, many of us do.

Drop in and say hello – you will be made welcome!

## **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

New dates in May to be confirmed.

## **Message to readers!**

Do you have any suggestions for improving St Luke's Church parish magazine? If so, please contact our editors whose contact details can be found on pages 1 and 11 (p11 for paper copies). Positive and constructive ideas are always welcome for consideration.

# ST LUKE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SCHOOL COUNCIL TRIP TO PARLIAMENT EARLY MARCH

We had to be at school very early (6.30am) to travel to Runcorn station in the school minibus to catch the train to London.

London was very busy, there were lots of people buzzing around going about their everyday lives. We had to transfer to the underground to get to Parliament Education Centre.

We learned so much about Parliament that we would never have known had we not been there. Things like why only people who are chosen can be part of the House of Lords and who sits on certain benches. In the House of Commons, the members are elected by the voters. The Government front bench is on the right-hand side of the Speaker of the House of Commons and is occupied by Government ministers. The opposition front bench is occupied by shadow ministers who are the most senior in the Shadow Cabinet.

We went to see Westminster Hall where the Queen was laid out in state and thousands of people were able to walk through to pay their respects.

It was interesting to find out about how our Government debates issues and how Bills become Laws. We got the chance to debate our own subject when we went into a workshop. Our workshop room was set up like the House of Commons. Jennifer got to wear a wig and gown and was elected Speaker of the House, and we chose to debate on whether we should ban smoking. We all decided that it should be banned, but that the ban should be brought in gradually, so some people do not suffer withdrawal symptoms.

At the end of our workshop, our local MP Bill Esterson came to see us. He talked to us about what it is like to work in Parliament and why it is important for children to become engaged with politics and take up their right to a vote.

We loved our trip to Parliament and hope to take our families one day.

### St Luke's Primary School Council



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### SMILE LINES –

In reply to a question in Sunday School, one little boy said that the fifth commandment is: "Humour thy father and mother".

A friend took her small daughter to church. The vicar's prayers had gone on for several minutes when suddenly a small voice piped up: "Has he forgotten how to say, Amen?"

Why did the chicken cross the road? For the chicken, it's not the destination that's important. It's the journey itself.

# iFeliz Pascua!

**A belated Happy Easter from all of the children and staff at Habla Bilingual Day Nursery, Formby**

It has been a busy few months for us at Habla. With the introduction of the new government funding, we have had a big increase in enquiries and so have been busy meeting new families and showing them around the nursery.

We have also been working hard to get our outdoor area ready for Spring. As we have been open a couple of years a few of our outdoor resources were beginning to look a bit tired, so we consulted with the staff and children to give the outdoor area a bit of a refresh. The children love construction and vehicles, so we have enhanced this area with some new loose parts - including vehicles! We love nature and collecting things on our walks to the woods, so we have increased our natural resources. We have also got some new water play items which we love.



We had a very busy month in February, celebrating Chinese New Year and the Spanish Carnival Festival and Pancake Day.

**Jenny Birch - Director**

Earlier this term our toddlers invited their parents in for Stay and Play sessions themed around Valentine's Day. It was lovely to have the parents come in and play with us. We made love potions, had some red playdough, and did some baking. The children loved the Valentine activities, and it was even better to get to share them with the parents.



The sessions were so popular that preschool planned some Easter Stay and Play sessions for their parents.

We had lots of fun things planned for Easter. We had an Easter bonnet competition, where the children made an Easter bonnet at home and brought it in to show us. We also had an egg hunt in the garden, naming the colours of the eggs we found and counting how many we had.

Easter is a busy time in Spain too with lots of different traditions that we spent time finding out about.

*Habla Bilingual Day Nursery offers full day care from 7:30-5:45pm all year round. We have a baby room for under 2's and a toddler area and preschool area as well as purpose built outdoor space.*



## QUOTES FOR APRIL FROM PARISH PUMP

### With Annual General Meetings at church in mind...

It was not an accident that 17 of the 36 parables of our Lord had to do with property and stewardship. - *William James Dawson*

Stewardship is what a man does after he says, 'I believe'. – *W H Greaves*

All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His being with them. - *J Hudson Taylor*

I believe in loyalty to the local church. I don't believe in that view of the invisible church that makes you invisible at church! - *Vance Havner*

Don't stay away from church because there are so many hypocrites. There's always room for one more. - *A R Adams*

### April brings the beauties of spring, a time when we especially admire Creation...

The probability of life originating by accident is comparable to the probability of the complete Oxford dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing factory. - *Edwin Conklin*

To create requires infinite power. All the world cannot make a fly. - *Thomas Watson*

### Finally, some miscellaneous observations on life....

Cosmetics: A woman's way of keeping a man from reading between the lines. - *Anon*

Do not believe in miracles...rely on them. - *Anon*

Do you believe in love at first sight, or should I drive by again? - *Anon*

Each of us is a mixture of dust and deity. - *Anon*

Every day is a gift; that's why they call it the present. - *Anon*

Everyone else my age is an adult, whereas I am merely in disguise. - *Anon*

Friendship is a responsibility...not an opportunity. - *Anon*

The bravest thing you can do when you are not brave is to profess courage and act accordingly. - *Anon*

The two hardest things to handle in life are failure and success. - *Anon*

What we see in others often reveals something about us. - *Anon*

When a freight train passes, no one says, "It sounded just like a tornado!" - *Anon*

Why do they call it a drop cloth when the paint usually drops where the cloth ISN'T? - *Anon*

In the cookie of life, friends are the chocolate chips. - *Anon*

It's easy to be an angel when no one ruffles your feathers. - *Anon*



## SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN

The photo shows one of the first Easter deliveries of mainly Easter eggs to the SSK in response to Maggie's chocolate Easter appeal. The donations were from Church, St Luke's Primary School and 76 eggs from Range HS. At the time of writing, the collections / donations from these three sources would be continuing up to Easter itself. This particular delivery was made on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March and Stella, one of the voluntary helpers at the Kitchen, was delighted with the carload.



Maggie thanks sincerely all those who made donations to the Easter egg appeal but is also keen to remind everybody that the demand for non-perishable food and other items is ongoing all year round. The kind-hearted and generous nature of many people in our local community is never to be undervalued - not forgetting likewise the voluntary staff like Stella at the Kitchen who give up so much of their time to help others in greater

need.

**KD pp Maggie**

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## MOTHERING SUNDAY POSY MAKING

The gentlemen of St Luke's gathered in the Meeting Room the Saturday morning before Mothering Sunday on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March to make the flower posies for distribution to the ladies in church the following day.

The perfect arrangement of flowers is one with the right balance and contrast. Our St Luke's posies consisted of a delightful yellow / green mix of daffodils, mimosa and assorted evergreens expertly arranged by the men of St Luke's, many of whom were thrilled at the opportunity of exhibiting their skills extraordinaire at



flower arranging – skills which had lain dormant for many years!

Well done, guys! Your mothers would have been proud of you!

**KD**



## WOODLAND WORKSHOP

Woodland workshop. What? Where? Who? Why? These are important questions.

First, we need to define what we're talking about. The woodland is the area of ground, outside of the graveyards, delineated by the fence separating our site from that owned by the National Trust, so our ground is contiguous with that of the Trust. It is part of the Mersey Forest.

The woodland, in its current form, is very much the brainchild of Bob Wagstaff. In the past there was a move to plant up the area with local species and that's what happened. Now, I know many of you will walk into the churchyard, survey the trees and think to yourselves, "Oh, that's very green". However, I urge you to download a plant identification app on to your smartphone. Alternatively, find a young member of your family and get them to do it. You will find that what you thought of as a monoculture of sycamores with the odd white poplar is, in fact, a carefully planted variety of English trees. As for the sycamores, they are an invasive species that we try to eradicate before they become too large, for you will see we have basically coppiced these North American interlopers. (Look on the bright side: we've kept the grey squirrels at bay, and we don't have mink). To all lovers of this variety of maple, I say, "Fear not, the blasted things grow like dandelions in your lawn".

The Woodland Workshop team is drawn from a variety of people with an interest in managing the wild area in our churchyard. We have a pretty free hand but are effectively a subgroup who answer to the PCC. This may seem needlessly bureaucratic but is very useful to access funding for tree surgeons, for example, when some forty-metre-high white poplar has reached the end of its life (about 70 - they live fast and die young) and is about to take out the Meeting Room.

Perhaps I can give you an idea of the sort of work we do by describing a few of the current projects. The western boundary fence has a few gaps. Fair enough; nothing lasts forever. Instead of replacing the fence, we are going for a greener option and using sycamore poles (see, I told you they'd come in useful). This is not as long lasting as a commercial fence but gives a more homespun feel to the area. As the wood breaks down it forms a habitat for insects. The insects then form a food source for smaller woodland birds. Those birds then form part of the wider food chain. Over time we may replace some of the fencing prone to vandalism with more substantial barriers.

We are clearing some areas of ivy. Whilst a useful habitat, providing cover for insects and small mammals, you can have too much of a good thing. We are steadily clearing a space to the south of the Meeting Room. Attempts to introduce wildflowers have not met with success. However, as we ate baked potatoes, cooked in the ashes of incinerated ivy runners, and rested our chins on our hands, we have noted that broad leaved plants germinated in the cleared areas. In the shelter provided by these pioneer species (that's not dramatic licence, it's a genuine scientific term) we see brambles and grasses struggling to gain a toe hold. Thus, nature plans out the ecological succession better than us. Who'd 'a thunk it'? These hardy pioneers are not palatable to the local lagomorph population. Hopefully our floppy eared friends hop over to lunch on the grass of the graveyard, thereby reducing the amount of mowing we have to do.

Our tree planting has also resumed. We are working on an understorey of hazel and hawthorn, which we hope will encourage red squirrels into our area as the nuts will provide a source of sustenance for our persecuted bushy tailed little friends.

I hope this has given you a flavour of what we do. I look forward to welcoming more volunteers; we normally meet on the second Saturday morning of each month. Bring a nature loving disposition and sturdy footwear. We'll provide tools and, more importantly, coffee and baked potatoes.

**Peter Griffin – Woodland Workshop Co-Ordinator**

(WW Gallery on Page 9)



# WOODLAND WORKSHOP GALLERY



(Photos by Rev Matt)



## SERVICES FOR APRIL 2024

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April

11.00am Holy Communion  
(Readings: Acts 3: 11-26 & Luke 24: 35-48)

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 2

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Acts 1: 1-11 & John 20: 19-31)

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 3

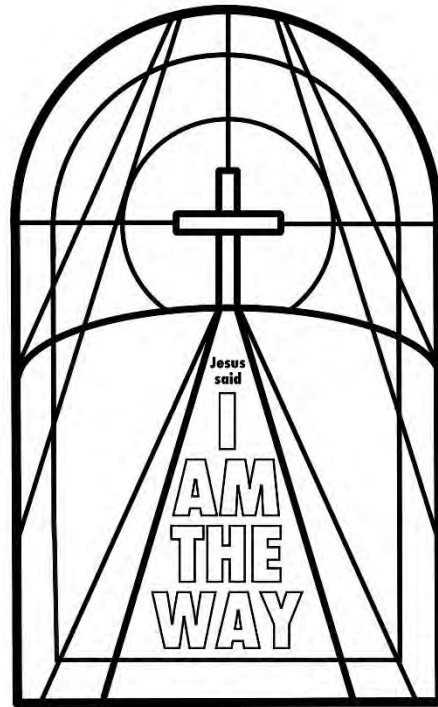
8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Acts 1: 12-26 & Luke 24: 36-48)

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter 4

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Acts 2: 1-13 & John 10: 11-18)

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 5

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Acts 2: 14-41 & John 15: 1-8)



(\*Kids@StLuke's - Term time only)

**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.  
(Romans 12:1 NIV)**

## PRAYERS FOR APRIL 2024

*Almighty Father,  
In these weeks after Easter, help us to receive afresh  
the new life Jesus' resurrection makes possible.  
Lord, come to us. Walk through the locked doors of our fears.  
Bring us your peace. Fill us with your Holy Spirit.  
Send us onto our daily front lines to share your resurrection,  
peace, hope and love with those who are lost and lonely.  
Thank you for meeting us in Jesus, our Lord and our God.  
We are your Easter people. Hallelujah. Amen.*

**Daphne Kitching (Parish Pump) – based on John 20:19-end**

*We pray for rainbows midst the April showers.  
We pray for joy among the April flowers.  
We pray for thankful hearts when a new bird sings.  
We pray for the hope that new life brings.  
We pray for Spring in all its glory.  
We pray for Jesus, the bigger story!*

**KD – Joint Editor**

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## WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Mrs Jean Watts
Reader Emeritus	Mr Chris Mulford Prof Allan Hobson
Churchwardens	Mr Steve Ginn Mrs Fiona Grieveson
Deputy Churchwardens	Mr John McGibbon Mrs Sheila Rodger
Treasurer	Mr Hugh Dixon
Deputy Treasurer	Mrs Gwyneth Croft
PCC Secretary	Dr David Hogben
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Jean Cox
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Andrew Cox Mr John Gelder Mrs Hillary Griffin Dr David Hogben
Gift Aid Officer	Mrs Valerie Hogben
Legacy Officer	Mr John McGibbon
Parish Hall Secretary	Mr Steve Ginn
Meeting Room Secretary	Mrs Fiona Grieveson
Newsletter Editor	Mrs Irene Powell
Magazine Editors	Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr Ken Davies (Contributions by <b>10th</b> of the month – preferably by email – see page 1)
Magazine Distribution	Mr Colin Cooke
Magazine Collation	Mr David Moore
Magazine Adverts	Mrs Margaret Cooke
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	Mr Allan Worthington
Safeguarding Officer	Dr Peter Griffin
Child Protection Officer	Mrs Joyce Eddlestone
Pastoral Care Co-ordinators	Mrs Hillary Griffin Mrs Jean watts
Vulnerable Adults Officer	Mrs Jean Watts
Health & Safety Officer	Dr David Hogben
Woodland Workshop Co-ordinator	Dr Peter Griffin
Cathedral Representative	Mrs Elizabeth Lowe
Church & Mid-African Mission	Mrs June McGibbon
Church Administrator	Mrs Valerie Hogben

## WHAT'S ON

**Monthly Prayer Meetings** – See weekly news sheet for details. Monday or Tuesday evenings likely days, 7.30/7.45pm in MEETING ROOM.

**Weekly Home Bible Groups** – If you would like to join a group, please speak to Matt.

**What If? Course** – Started Mon 11<sup>th</sup> March (5 week course). Speak to Matt **or** email: [revmattdavis@gmail.com](mailto:revmattdavis@gmail.com) for details.

**Refer also to p2 & p3 for further information.**

**Youth Alpha Group** for secondary school students from 7.45-9.00pm each Sun during school term time. Started late January. It is led by Liz & Matt in the MEETING ROOM. It is a relaxed time with a short video. There are pizzas/snacks; games; and a chance to explore and grow our faith in Jesus.

**Creche** - a creche is available at all 10.30am services.

**(Toilet facilities available in the Meeting Room throughout all services).**

**Confirmation classes** for juniors and adults are held annually.

**Home Communion** – The Wardens welcome the names and addresses of the sick and elderly who would like Holy Communion at home.

**Baptisms & Weddings** – Contact the Wardens after the 10.30 service.

**Woodland Workshop** – Contact Peter Griffin (871846) for details – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat am of the month.

**Uniformed Organisations** in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

<b>Rainbows</b>	Contact District Commissioner		Sheila Kirk	875393
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### **Brownie Guides**

4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
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8 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands	
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### **Guides**

4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
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<b>Beavers</b>	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm	John Gelder ( <a href="mailto:Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com">Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com</a> )	876456
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<b>Cub Scouts</b>	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm	Bob Ford ( <a href="mailto:Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com">Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com</a> )	873026
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<b>Group Scout Leader</b>		Gordon Hilbert		874167
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**PCC** – if you would like to communicate a concern to the PCC, **The Standing Committee Members** are Rev Dr Matt Davis (Vicar), Hugh Dixon (Treasurer), Steve Ginn (Warden), Fiona Grieveson (Warden), Dr David Hogben (Secretary).

**Other PCC Members** are Andrew Cox, Debbie Davies, Ken Davies, Ann Dennison, Anne Dixon, John Gelder, Hillary Griffin, Dr Peter Griffin, Prof Allan Hobson, June McGibbon, Chris Payne, Sheila Rodger, Jean Watts.

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## PEST CONTROL

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Please telephone David to make an appointment: 07986 335491



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## WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN APRIL

**St Luke's Church** – Refer p2 & 3; p10 for Services; p12 What's On; Weekly News Sheets.

**St Peter's Church and Parish Hall (Paradise Lane) – 01704 871171**

- Bingo for the elderly every Sun 8.00-9.30pm and Mon 2.00-4.00pm.
- Bacon Barm & Banter – Mon 8<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30-12noon (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month normally, except Bank Holidays, hence not 1<sup>st</sup> April Easter Monday) in the Bier House (on Church site). Free admission.
- Singing Thursdays! (except for 1st Thurs of the month) in the parish hall - 2pm (doors open 1.45pm) and finish approx. 3.30pm. Free entry and refreshments. Everyone welcome – especially carers and their loved ones.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Singing for Fun.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Singing is Good for Your Brain!
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.

### **Formby Methodist**

- FM are celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and are marking it with several events throughout the year at Elbow Lane. One event in April.
  - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm – 'Magic and Mayhem' The Gilbert & Sullivan Story.
- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (2<sup>nd</sup> April) 2-4pm.
- The Carers' Support Group meets every Fri afternoon 2.00-4.00pm at the Methodist Church. Contact Irene for further information: tel 876219 or via email on p16 for Formby Befriending Scheme.

### **150 Years of Methodism in the Formby Community**

#### **No One's A Stranger Twice**

by

local author

**Alastair Gillies**

*"It was not until I had the privilege of reading this carefully researched and thoughtfully written book, beautifully illustrated, that I came to realise the breadth and depth of the history of Formby Methodist Church within the Formby community. Enjoy! You are in for a treat."* (Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson, Chair of Liverpool Methodist District)

**Available from 3 March 2024**

from

Derbyshires, Chapel Lane and Formby Methodist Church, Elbow Lane (Sundays)

**£10**

**(plus £2.50 p&p)**

(all proceeds to Church funds)

With kind support from

Formby Parish Council, Formby Civic Society and Derbyshires

### **Formby Library (01704 874177) – Mon to Fri 10.00-4.30pm and Sat 10.00-1.30pm**

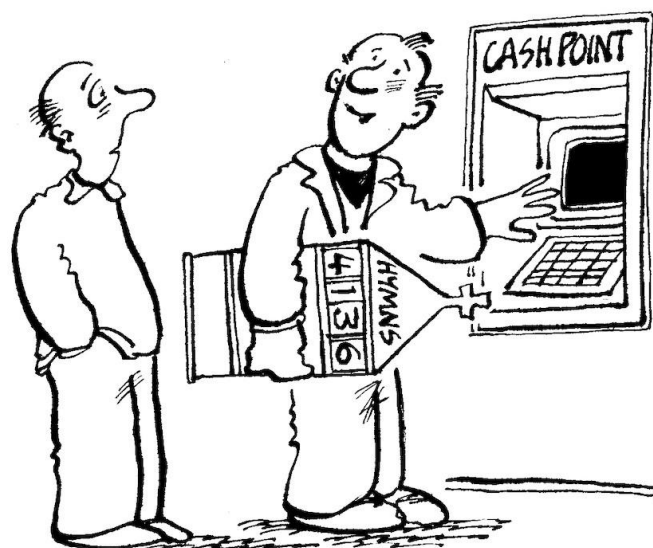
- Limited delivery service on offer; enquire at Library for details.
- Open for browsing and computer use.
- Police Help Desk – every 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon of the month, 15<sup>th</sup> April.
- Family History & IT Desk one to one sessions running as usual – once a month on a Tuesday. Contact Library for date and time and to book in advance.
- Regular Free Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10.30-12noon throughout the Spring and Summer.
- Gardening Club will continue through Spring and interested persons can go on the mailing list to be notified about sessions.

(Continued on Page 16)

- There was a taster Creative Needlework session with Narwhal Gebreel last March. Following on from the taster the Library hoped to run a 6-week course. Contact Library to check if this is still the case.
- Monthly talk on Wed 24<sup>th</sup> April @ 2.00pm – ‘Badgers’. Places are limited so booking is essential.
- Creative Writing and Formby Hub drop-in are still happening - enquire at Library for details.
- Shared Reader Group’s 1<sup>st</sup> session was on Frid 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb at 11.00am. A relaxing, low-key, reading group which will run every month in the new year. No pressure to get your book read in a month. Everything discussed will be read during the meeting! Check day and time with Library.
- Check Sefton Libraries website regularly for up-to-date information on events and activities.

**Formby Befriending Scheme** - For more information on activities and events, email: [info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk](mailto:info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk)

**Sefton Dementia Action Alliance** – contact Jan Campbell: [jan.campbell@seftoncvcs.org.uk](mailto:jan.campbell@seftoncvcs.org.uk) for information.



*...between you and me, it's the only way I can remember my PIN number!*

### THOUGHT FOR APRIL

British Summer Time has arrived, the days are ever longer and the nights ever shorter. The whole of nature is beginning to burst into life – new life! The evidence is in abundance as we walk through our beautiful churchyard and wander down the lanes of our local woodland. We see it, we hear it, we smell it, we touch it, and yes, with a bit of poetic licence and imagination we can even ‘taste’ it - through its engaging colour, freshness and vibrancy! This is indeed a ‘5-star restaurant’! Our natural world in and around Formby should never be taken for granted and always valued to the full for it is part of God’s wonderful world, and we must thank Him for it.

We know there is lots of pain and suffering in our messed up and broken world. We witness it every day on our TV screens, and we all experience it in our own lives at some time or other. It is always there, but we can learn to deal with it much better when we indulge in the joyous side of life, and the natural world on our doorstep at this time of the year is a great opportunity for us to do just that. So, rub the winter sleep from your eyes, recharge your batteries and move forward into Spring with purpose – make every day count! And don’t forget to invite Jesus along as your trusted companion!

**KD**

## POEMS FOR A LIFETIME

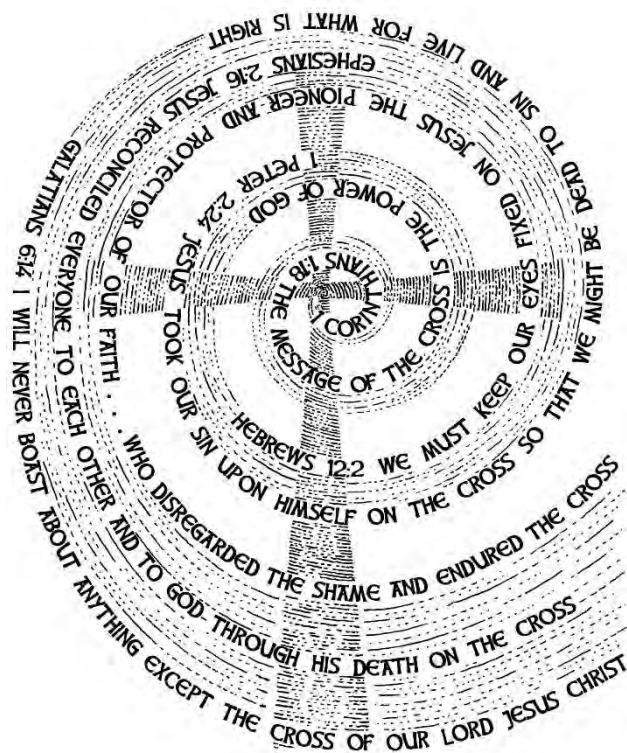
### Untitled and writer unknown

*Did He set you aside when the fields were ripe  
And the workers seemed too few?  
Did He set you aside and give someone else  
The task you so longed to do?  
Did He set you aside when the purple grapes  
Hung low in the autumn sun?  
And did hands not your own just gather them in -  
The trophies you'd almost won?*

*Did He set you aside on a couch of pain -  
There where all you could do was pray?  
And then when you whispered 'Oh please let me go'  
Was His answer always 'Stay'?  
Did He set you aside with no plan at all -  
With no reason that you could see,  
While your heart cried out, 'In this limited space,  
Lord, how can I work for Thee'?  
Did He set you aside with a heavy cross,  
And was your heart filled with despair?  
Did you think He had gone and left you alone  
Then suddenly He was there?  
And there in the shadows, the world all shut out  
Just kneeling alone at His feet,  
Did you learn the answers (though not all yet)?  
Say, weren't His reasons sweet?*



Sent in by Church member Barbara Weldrake



### The God who answers prayer

*There is a God who answers prayer  
Who intercedes before the throne,  
The Son of God who ever cares,  
Do not believe you walk alone.*

*When life seems hard, no answers come,  
He knows the path that you now tread,  
Believe in Him though all seems lost,  
He knows about the tears you shed.*

*Hold on to Him who is your strength,  
Although it seems there's no way through,  
Though pain and heartache both are near,  
Who holds the world holds also you.*

*There is a day when all is clear,  
A day when we all understand  
That all our lives but marked a way  
That led us to the Promised Land.*

Megan Carter (Parish Pump)

## NATIONAL TRUST ACQUIRES 193 ACRES AROUND LUNT VILLAGE

A new forest is coming to Lunt now that the conservation charity has acquired a series of unused agricultural fields from the local authority.

The National Trust is planning to create new woodland, wetland, and grassland areas on the 193 acres, with an eye towards boosting the biodiversity in the area. It is hoped that a variety of animals will opt to live in the new habitats, including red squirrels.

“Whilst the landscape around Lunt looks quite green, much of it is private farmland and not currently accessible”, said Kate Martin, a lead ranger for the National Trust. “Securing this land gives us a brilliant opportunity to create more diverse habitats, enabling nature to



flourish in the area”, she continued. “We know that people feel much more connected to nature when they can get out into it close to home, and that connectedness makes a huge difference to health and wellbeing”.

(The fields, outlined in black, sit on either side of the village of Lunt. Credit: Google Earth and council documents)

Planting of the new forest would commence later this year, thanks to funds from Mersey Forest’s award from the government’s Trees for Climate programme. “The Mersey Forest team are excited that a project like this could be funded through a Trees for Climate grant”, said Paul Nolan, director of Mersey Forest. “Lunt has long been a key strategic site identified in the Mersey Forest plan. This is a chance to bring the many benefits of woodland creation to Sefton, for communities, climate, and nature”.

The benefits of the woodland were a deciding factor in Sefton Council’s decision to sell the land, according to Leader Cllr Marion Atkinson. She referenced a council report about the proposed sale, stating “The report presented to cabinet showed the sale would have a positive impact on biodiversity of the area, contribute to increasing the ability of the area to capture carbon from new woodland planting and wetland creation, as well as offering new access opportunities to local people in Sefton”. **(In Your Area / Liverpool Echo)**





## Outstanding care centre in Formby

Are you or a loved one finding it increasingly difficult to manage independently and looking for a warm, cosy and safe new community to call home?

Offering residential, nursing and dementia care services, **Formby Manor** is fast becoming the care home of choice in Formby and the surrounding area and the residents and permanent staff members at the facility have created a warm, safe and vibrant community.

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*"To say I am impressed is an understatement. The management and staff show nothing but care and affection to both residents and their families."*

*"The care and attention is excellent. All the staff treat mum with great care and respect and ensure her dignity is not compromised in any way."*

*"I was amazed at the standard of Formby Manor having visited care homes when my husband required nursing care. It is far superior to any I have seen."*

*"I cannot praise this home enough. The care given and the commitment to the wellbeing of the residents is second to none. Thank you."*

For further information, or to make an appointment to view **Formby Manor** contact the team on 01704 339090 or email [enquiries@newcarehomes.com](mailto:enquiries@newcarehomes.com)

**Formby Manor Care Centre** 67 Liverpool Road, Formby L37 6BU  
[newcarehomes.com](http://newcarehomes.com)





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Member of the Society of Willwriters

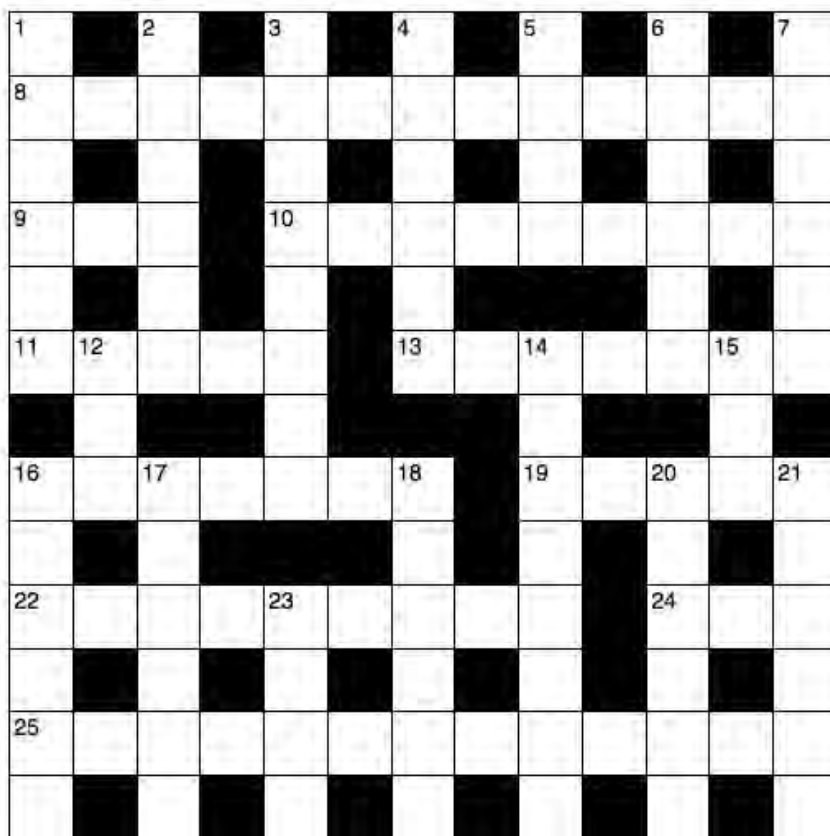
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Phone No: 07926 587776



## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the —' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
- 9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
- 10 Comes between Galatians and Philippians (9)
- 11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
- 13 Muslim holy month (7)
- 16 Ten ears (anag.) (7)
- 19 Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)
- 22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to

- a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)
- 24 'Go to the —, you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
- 25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

### DOWN

- 1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
- 2 Festival of the resurrection (6)
- 3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)
- 4 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
- 5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
- 6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
- 7 'But Christ is faithful — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
- 12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
- 14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
- 15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
- 16 I, uncle (anag.) (6)
- 17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
- 18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
- 20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)
- 21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)
- 23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

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**SMILE LINES** – Seen in a church magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven – how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms".

# SUDOKU

EASY

MEDIUM

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

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

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(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

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## WORDSEARCH

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

### St George of the Golden Legend

St George is Patron Saint of England, but he never actually came here. He was a Christian officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror. George was therefore martyred in Palestine about 300 AD. His courage became legendary, and St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages. In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine tells the story of how St George helped rescue the people of Sylene in Lybia from a dragon, especially the princess, who had been offered to the dragon as a sacrifice. With the dragon dead, and

the princess returned to her father the King, the people of Sylene converted to Christianity.

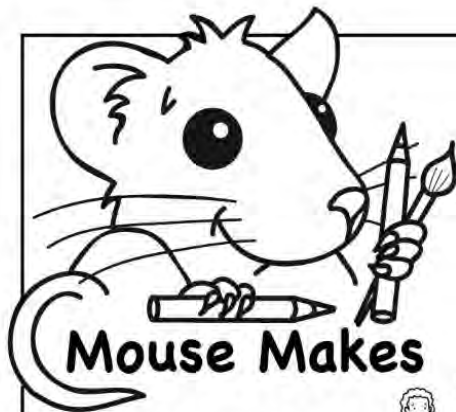
George  
Patron  
Saint  
England  
Officer

Roman  
Army  
Diocletian  
Terror  
Martyred

Palestine  
Courage  
Example  
Helper  
Evil  
Princess

Soldier  
Hero  
Golden  
Legend  
Dragon  
Converted





Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered. He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some."



So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net. Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch? Read John 21: 11



READ the story in John 21

A large illustration of a fishing net filled with fish. Inside the net is a word search grid. The words to be found are listed at the bottom of the grid.

Word Search Grid:

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

DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

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## SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

### EASY

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

### MEDIUM

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

## CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

**ACROSS:** 8, Transgressors. 9, Out. 10, Ephesians. 11, Throb. 13, Ramadan. 16, Nearest. 19, Neath. 22, Childless. 24, Ant. 25, Excommunicate.

**DOWN:** 1, Utmost. 2, Easter. 3, Assemble. 4, Archer. 5, Isis. 6, To hand. 7, As a son. 12, Hoe. 14, Monastic. 15, Apt. 16, Nuclei. 17, A piece. 18, Tied up. 20, Ararat. 21, Hatred. 23, Dome.



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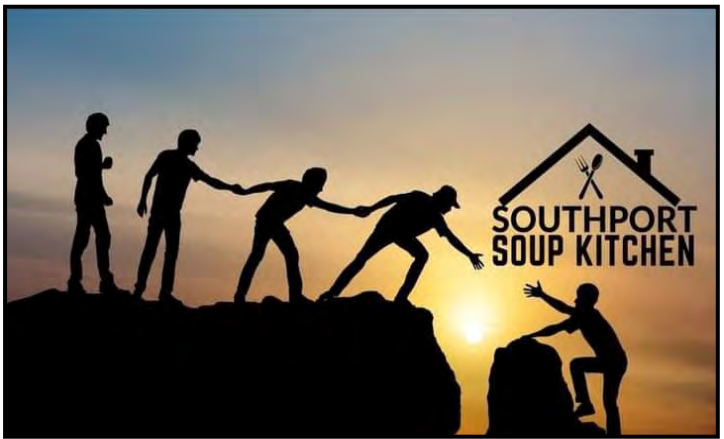




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these  
11 charities



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and grow in faith



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charity  
(Lev 27:30)



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**Rwanda**