

St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

Sept 2024

Price: £1.20 per issue

Cheaper by annual subscription

£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

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

Primary Schools

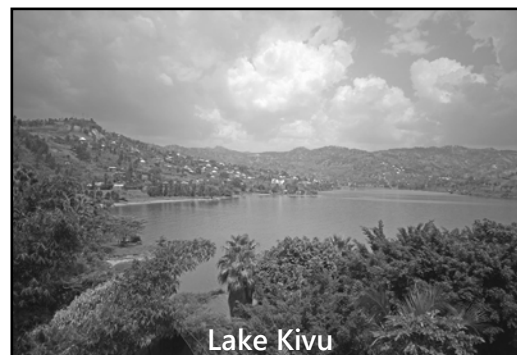
Aim: To support school ministry by providing equipment, school materials and evangelistic outreach

Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

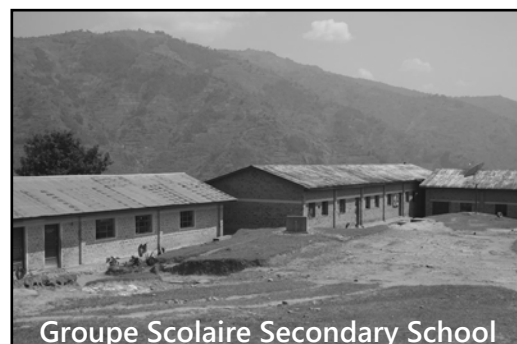
Aim: To support needy students in Shyira



Shyira District Hospital



Lake Kivu



Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

How YOU can help

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

Email us for further information: 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

I've got a bit of a problem. I guess some people might even call it an addiction. The more I have, the more I want. It started when I was a teenager and it's since caused me to spend an ever-increasing amount of money each year. Very soon it's going to lead to problems at home. Not that my family disagree with this obsession. I think they each are showing signs of the same tendency.



My problem is buying books. I just can't help myself. I see a good book that I want to read, and the temptation is too great. I buy it. I start reading and by the time I'm about halfway through the first chapter, I see another book. So, I buy it and start reading it, then I spot another good book and ... well, you get the idea. When I was younger, it was mainly astronomy and physics books. Now it's mainly theology, with the occasional programming or gardening book. The problem at home is that I'm running out of shelf space. The bookcases in my study at the vicarage are now full, with piles on top. I'll soon need to buy fitted shelves to make better use of the walls. (Of course, I won't get rid of the bookcases I currently have—they're far too useful! I'll move them elsewhere in the house where I can continue to fill them when Liz isn't looking).

One book I bought this summer has a copy of the Westminster Shorter Catechism from 1647 in an appendix. The very first question and answer in the catechism is:

Q. *What is the chief end of man?*

A. *Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him for ever.*

If we think about it, it's fairly obvious that people were created to *glorify* God: as our creator, we're to honour him and treat him with respect. But perhaps more surprisingly, we're to *enjoy* God as well. Enjoyment might be the last thing that comes to mind when we think of God or Jesus, but it shouldn't be. The Psalms are full of rejoicing and delight in God. For example, Psalms 35:10 and 111:2 say:

Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord and delight in his salvation.

Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

We enjoy and delight in something when we know how good it is. I enjoy books because they educate and entertain me (and they also look good on a bookcase!). God is better than anything else we spend time or money on. How can we be sure? Because he sent his Son the Lord Jesus Christ to rescue us by dying in our place on the cross, so we can experience life in all its fulness. When you realise the immensity of that, you can't help but enjoy God and glorify him.

With every blessing,

Matt

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

CHURCH REGISTER

Funerals and burials of ashes:

9th July – Matthew Foggin (burial of ashes)
11th July – Bob Birnie
11th July – Raymond Shaw (burial of ashes)
15th July – Mary Charlton (burial of ashes)

25th July – Sylvia Houghton (burial of ashes)
16th August – Margaret Fisher
22nd August – Ken Plant (burial of ashes)
23rd August – Frances Wise (burial of ashes)

DATES AND NOTES

PRAYER CHAIN – Please contact **Philip Lowe** if you know of someone who would appreciate prayer support (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.

NEW HEADTEACHER AT ST LUKE'S SCHOOL – Karen Allen from Maghull starts this Sept. All at St Luke's wish Karen every success in her new post.

NEXT PCC MEETING – Wed 25th Sept 7.30pm.

CTiFAH – John Ryan from St Peter's has now completed his term as Chair of CTiFAH and St Luke's thank him for his work in office. The new Chair for the next 12 months is Beryl Howard from St Stephen's Hightown. We send Beryl our best wishes for the year ahead.

HOLIDAY AT HOME 2024

The Holiday at Home Team would like to express their sincere thanks for the support provided for Holiday at Home 2024 by Churches Together in Formby, Altcar and Hightown. Thank you for the use of your premises and thank you to the many volunteers who gave their time and energy, once again, to provide such a varied programme, along with delicious refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

This is the 5th year Holiday at Home has taken place in the Formby area and has only been the case because of the unwavering support from our local churches. We had around 300 people this year attending 22 different events, mostly hosted on our church premises. An added bonus is that we know over £1,000 has been raised in donations for various charities, although we don't have the final total yet.

The feedback received from those who participated in Holiday at Home has been very positive. Those people who aren't usually able to attend social activities because of limited mobility, were especially appreciative of the free transport and help which enabled them to be there. This was due not only to the several volunteers from Formby Befriending Scheme offering their time over the fortnight but also to our local taxi firm. Formby Village and Phoenix Cabs were an enormous help and juggled their already heavy workload to accommodate people attending Holiday at Home. This was no mean feat with almost daily changes to the list of people needing transport!

A huge thank you, once again, to everyone who played their part in making Holiday at Home 2024 an enjoyable experience for those who attended.

From The Holiday at Home Team (Irene, Sheila, Valerie and Winnie)

QUIZ - KESWICK CHRISTIAN CONVENTION (JULY) – The theme this year was 'Resurrection'. There are 10 stories in the Bible of people being resurrected. How many can you remember? Answers on p24.

NOTICES



Together@StLuke's is a new initiative since Easter for anyone in the local community who would like to join us. It is on the first Saturday of the month. The walk (of differing abilities) starts at 2.00pm from the Meeting Room by the main church building, followed by drinks and snacks and crafts for primary aged children from 3-4pm. Come for some or all of it! It's free but donations are welcome. Dates for the autumn term are 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December.

Tuesday Lunch

Soup/sandwiches/cake & company, 3rd & 17th Sept in the Meeting Room. Donations for lunch welcome.

Open Door Saturdays this Autumn

A big thank you to all the people who volunteered to help run the coffee morning over July and August. Even though numbers varied from a handful to many it was greatly appreciated by all who visited. From now until Christmas we will be opening our doors, from 10 'til 12 for tea, coffee, cake and a chat, once a fortnight on: September 14th & 28th, October 12th & 26th, November 9th & 23rd and December 7th - why not drop in and say hello – you will be made welcome!

STOP PRESS: September 28th will be a Macmillan coffee morning – put it in your diary now!

Southport Soup Kitchen

The photo shows food items delivered on Wednesday 17th July from St Luke's Church and School and Range High School. Thank you to all who donated. Non-food items and money can also be donated – refer <https://southportsoupkitchen.net> for details.



SO, NOW IT'S SEPTEMBER

So funny how September can be viewed as the declining part of the year. The daylight hours are shortening of course, but in fact there is so much that is being renewed at this time of the year. There is a new school year starting for one thing. Then there are new seasons starting for soccer and rugby, amid much speculation. In church it is what is known as Ordinary Time from now up until Advent.

One more thing that will start in September is our Shoe Box offerings, as part of Operation Christmas Child, which is run by the Samaritan's Purse organisation. From the first Sunday in September, the display of shoe boxes and the supporting literature will be at the back of church and will remain there until the first week of November, when all the boxes will be dispatched to the collection centre in Southport.

Please do support this event which will mean that even more children, who may never have heard of the good news of Jesus, will be reached as they receive their box with gifts.

Any further information can be obtained from the Churchwardens or from me at the 8.30am Sunday service.

David Moore

A PRAYER FOR SOUTHPORT

It is over a month since the tragic events in Southport on the 29th of July. The prayer below from the North Western Baptist Association was circulated just afterwards and is worth repeating - (<https://www.nwba.org.uk/southportprayer.php>). It is offered for use by anyone who needs it.

*Gracious God,
Words alone cannot express our sadness and disbelief
Our heartbreak and anguish
When such precious lives are so brutally stolen.
We offer to you the cries of our own hearts
And pray for those families whose grief and loss
Is impossible to comprehend.*

*Help us all to cling to hope
Even amidst this senseless brutality.
Be close to all whose lives have been so cruelly scarred;
Surround them with your love;
Hold them fast in your sorrow,
And grant them strength amidst their unbearable pain.*

*We cannot escape our anger and devastation,
But choose to seek hope even amidst the darkness.
For all its horror, may it spur us even more
To never surrender to despair,
But build a world where peace, hope and love prevail.*

AMEN

TALES FROM THE GRAVEYARD

(by John Gelder)

With the above title you may well be expecting this article to be best placed in an October issue of another magazine along with some spooky ghost stories. However, sorry to disappoint those of you who might be expecting such, but instead, what a wonderful opportunity to be able to reflect on the beauty of our Church grounds that make St Luke's, Formby, such a special destination of hope.

It's quite amazing to think about how many things happen in our grounds on a weekly basis. We have such a wide variety of plants and wildlife that live and breathe within our grounds - many of which we may or may not have witnessed. From the birds visiting the bird table, to those nesting in the bird boxes or trees, bats in the bat boxes, the insects and the bugs that stay in our bug hotels or are hidden among the trees and plants, and, of course, not forgetting our beautiful red squirrels, rabbits, hedgehogs, and the odd fox.

It doesn't therefore seem right to simply refer to our grounds as the graveyard, but instead more a reflection of 'God's Garden'. Indeed, we are reminded that when God created us *"...from the dust...and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,"* (Genesis 2:7) it was always his intention to place us in his garden. *"Now the Lord had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed."* (Genesis 2:8). However, as we know after the fall *"...the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken."* (Genesis 3:23). But does that mean that it is God's intention to banish us from his garden forever, or is he wanting us to come back home?

Well, to answer that question, it is perhaps helpful to consider all the people who pass through our gates each week, whether that be to visit our regular services of worship or to attend the many other activities and groups that bring people to St Luke's - and the stories they bring with them.

Having to spend time each week around the church grounds has given me the opportunity to stop and talk to people along the way. This has been such a blessing. It's always fascinating how many people seem to 'find you' and want to approach you to talk to, often keen to share 'their story' - whether that's visiting a family grave or our Garden of Remembrance, taking a trip down memory lane, bringing back fond memories of key family celebrations, looking for key historical treasures such as the God Stone and the Stocks, finding a place to stop and rest in our busy world or simply pass through as they take in some gentle exercise, with or without a dog.



But why the grounds of our church? Why 'God's Garden' when there are so many other places to visit? To understand more, perhaps it is helpful to reflect upon key instances in the Bible where we see Jesus in a Garden. For example, we are told that on the night upon which he was betrayed *"...Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray'."* (Matthew 26:36). Why the Garden of Gethsemane? Why not the quiet room where they had shared the Last Supper or the Temple in Jerusalem?

To understand a bit more, it's helpful to understand how Jesus was feeling at that time. We are told that Jesus tells Peter, John, and James *"... 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me'."* (Matthew 26:38). Is this indicative of why, often at times of great sorrow, we also gravitate to a Garden of Remembrance? Are we too looking for a place of quiet, away from the crowds where we can feel closer to God and speak to Him in prayer. I often wonder if we had a 'sixth sense' and were able to hear every prayer that was said, how quiet our Church grounds would be? How many people's stories are being taken to God in prayer – for thanksgiving, joy, praise, healing, sorrow, pain, and forgiveness?

(Cont. on p6)

One of the most memorable visitors to St Luke's I had the privilege of meeting recently was a young man who was visiting with his support worker. I originally thought that they had come to visit a grave and so offered to give them some quiet space. Upon understanding that that wasn't the purpose of their visit and that they were simply exploring the area I offered to show them around so they could see some key things of interest. The young man was extremely keen to ask lots of questions, including questions that really made me smile. Are you the Vicar? What time do you have to work until? Will you get told off if you don't finish cutting the grass tonight? But he also asked some incredibly open and honest questions including, 'do you believe in hell' and 'does Jesus really exist'?

You don't have to be the best gardener in the world. Like the Sower in the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:18-23), we are simply scattering the seed, trusting in God for him to nurture the seed that lands in the good soil.

We pray that God will continue to bless all those who come to visit us in 'God's Garden' here at St Luke's and that through us as his gardeners we will continue to 'Scatter Seeds of Hope'. Amen.

(*Copies will probably still be available from the back of Church throughout September at a nominal cost. 'Scattering Seeds of Hope' is a book about evangelism for the discouraged and ineffective).

John Gelder



QUOTES FOR SEPTEMBER FROM PARISH PUMP

Miscellaneous observations on our Christian pilgrimage

Desert and mountain places located on the margins of society are locations of choice in luring God's people to a deeper understanding of who they are. - **Belden Lane**

The new birth is a change of direction and change of affection. It's a union of the soul with Christ. Christ comes to you through the Holy Spirit, and you become a partaker of God's life. - **Billy Graham**

If we complained less, and praised more, we should be happier, and God would be more glorified. Let us daily praise God for common mercies. - **Charles Spurgeon**

Confessing your sins is no substitute for forsaking them. - **Anon**

It is religion without love that has been responsible for most of the misery of the world. - **Anon**

The spirit which loses reverence for God turns naturally to sinning. - **John HerCUS**

Whom God calls He qualifies. - **Richard Sibbes**

Miscellaneous observations on life

The joy that isn't shared, I've heard, dies young. - **Anne Sexton**

To live without listening is not to live at all; it is simply to drift in my own backwater. - **Joan Chittister**

I guess it's true what they say: there's a fine line between gardening and madness. - **Cliff Clavin**

A wise man will desire no more than he may get justly, use soberly, distribute cheerfully and leave contentedly. - **Anon**

Our eyes are placed in front because it is more important to look ahead than to look back. - **Anon**

Character is destiny. - **Greek proverb**



MR AND MRS FORMBY VISIT FORMBY

The following short article appeared in St Peter's June magazine, and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the author, Nick Philpott:

'A couple of months ago, our friends at St Luke's were contacted by a member of the Formby family who lived in Fort Worth, Texas. Matt Formby and his wife,



Marie, were on a visit to Britain, and were keen to see the roots of the Formby family. Apparently, Matt can trace a direct ancestry to the Richard Formby who was armour-bearer to King Henry IV at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. However, his line deviates from the family who became squires of Formby in later centuries.

Andrew Cox, from St Luke's, showed the couple round the Formby relics at his church, and then took them to St Thomas', Melling, which also has Formby family connections.

Finally, Revd Ted Woods and I had the pleasure of giving Matt and Marie a tour of St Peter's, especially the Formby Chapel. They were impressed by the brass plaque of the heads of the Formby family, the Formby crest and the windows and other features of our church including the Queen Anne hatchment. We then took the opportunity to view the Formby graves, and that of the last squire of Formby, Mr John F S Formby at the far end of the churchyard.

Matt and Marie left with happy memories of their visit, a copy of The History of St Peter's and a 250th anniversary mug – but we forgot the tea-towel!

Nick Philpott



Online information tells me that the Formby family name was found in the USA, Canada and the UK between 1840 and 1920. The most Formby families were found in the United Kingdom in 1891 when there were 321 living in Lancashire. This was about 83% of all recorded Formbys in the UK.

The grave records for Formbys in St Helen's Church Sefton showed 42, the earliest dating back to 27 July 1618. On the website www.findagrave.com – they have records of graveyards around the world – 1,614 called Formby are recorded. Locally, we have Formbys in most local churches and graveyards – not necessarily the same Formby family of course! The website shows 34 at St Peter's, 2 at St Thomas Melling, 54 at Our Lady's Formby and 173 at St Luke's.

Of course, the true accuracy of any of these figures must be acknowledged within certain margins of error, but they do collectively indicate the popularity of the Formby name in this part of the world. So, not sure, whether or not, Matt and Marie Formby from Fort Worth ever found exactly what they were looking for! Happy researching!

As a place, Wikipedia tells us a little about Formby: *'The common place-name suffix – by is from the Scandinavian byr meaning "homestead", "settlement" or "village". The village of Formby was originally spelt Fornebei and means "the old settlement" or "village belonging to Forni".*

KD - with thanks to Nick Philpott (St Peter's) and Andrew Cox and Philip Lowe from St Luke's

THOUGHT FOR SEPTEMBER

I wrote my Thought for September well before the tragic events in Southport on July 29th. The theme was about the greater effectiveness of the magazine as a vehicle for outreach when communication is two-way between editors and readers. The subsequent disorder, violence and criminality orchestrated by far-right extremist groups in the wake of the 29th caused me to re-think it somewhat.

The opening up of two-way communication and shared information with supporting images of any newsworthy event can now become global within seconds - thanks to the internet and social media platforms. Such can be of benefit with positive outcomes. But in the immediate aftermath of the Southport tragedy, the unwanted side of social media surfaced, with misinformation, disinformation and fake news dominating the narrative. It's a two-edged sword!

However, we should never support the total shutting down of ‘free speech’, for it is the cornerstone of any democracy, but when it crosses the line into abuse, prejudice, discrimination and hatred and which then in turn instigates violence and criminality, it has to be called out and challenged for what it is with perpetrators held to account.

The language we use is crucially important when we converse with others. To think before we speak and to listen eagerly are golden rules in any meaningful dialogue. The written word also warrants equal attention.

So, back to our parish magazine, a magazine which can provide for both editors and readers an opportunity to engage with each other in a positive and productive way. We will always be delighted to hear from you, and by the way, our collective all round communication skills will prosper when we have that daily two-way conversation with Jesus; no doubt about that!

KD



howworldofmoose.com (First published in Private Eye) c 2023 woodmansterne.com

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday 1st September – Trinity 14

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am All-Age Holy Communion
(Readings: Acts 6:8-15 & Mark 7:1-8)

Thursday 5th September

11.00am Holy Communion
(Readings: 1 Cor 3:18-23 & Luke 5:1-11)

Sunday 8th September – Trinity 15

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: Acts 7:1-53 & Mark 7:24-37)

Sunday 15th September – Trinity 16

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
with Holy Communion
(Readings: Acts 7:54-8:3 & Matthew 6:25-33)

Sunday 22nd September – Trinity 17

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: Acts 8:4-25 & Mark 9:30-37)

Sunday 29th September – Trinity 18

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: Acts 8:26-40 & John 1:47-51)

(*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)**

Prayer for September

Lord, here we are in September – a beautiful month at the end of the summer, but before the autumn has taken hold. A month of excitement and new starts for many, a month when courage is needed for our children and young people.

And 'Lord' we pray for courage, compassion and integrity for our new Prime Minister and our new government. We pray for justice and peace in our country and in the world.

Help us 'Lord', to know that you are 'Lord' of September; you are 'Lord' and giver of every new month, every new day, every new minute. Help us to put our trust in you for our adventures and for our mundane everyday routines.

You are our generous, loving Father and promise that you will never leave us or forsake us when we trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching (PP)

WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Mrs Jean Watts Mr Chris Mulford Prof Allan Hobson
Readers Emeritus	
Churchwardens	Mr Steve Ginn Mrs Fiona Grieveson Mr John McGibbon
Deputy Churchwarden	
Treasurer Deputy Treasurer	Mr Hugh Dixon 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 Meeting Room Secretary	Mr Steve Ginn Mrs Fiona Grieveson
Newsletter Editor	Mrs Irene Powell
Magazine Editors	Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr Ken Davies (Contributions by 10th of the month – preferably by email – see page 1)
Magazine Distribution Magazine Adverts Magazine Collation	Mrs Margaret Cooke Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr David Moore
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 Mrs Jean Watts
Vulnerable Adults Officer	
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.

Refer also to p2, p3 & p15 for further What's On 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 – 2nd Sat am of the month.

Uniformed Organisations in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Rainbows	Contact District Commissioner		Sheila Kirk	875393
Brownie Guides				
4 th Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
8 th Formby	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands	
Guides				
4 th Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
Beavers	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm	John Gelder (Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	876456
Cub Scouts	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm	Bob Ford (Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	873026
Group Scout Leader			Gordon Hilbert	874167

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, Prof Allan Hobson, Allyson Jump*, Jean Mainey*, Chris Payne, Michael Roberts*, Jean Watts. (*New Members)

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WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN SEPTEMBER

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 2nd Sept, 10.30-12noon (1st Monday of the month except Bank Holidays) 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.
 - 2nd Thursday 12th Sept – Singing for Fun.
 - 3rd Thursday 19th Sept – Singing is Good for Your Brain!
 - 4th Thursday 26th Sept – Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.

Formby Methodist

- FM are celebrating their 150th anniversary this year and are marking it with several events throughout the year at Elbow Lane.
- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (3rd Sept) 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 by emailing the Formby Befriending Scheme – info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

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.
- Reader Group taster session starting in Sept in which stories can be shared over a cuppa and explore how they make us feel. Date to be confirmed. All welcome. To go on mailing list, enquire at the Library.
- A series of free Ukulele Courses are beginning in Sept and will run into the New Year. They complement the Library's new Ukulele Learning scheme. For more information enquire with Library staff.
- Talk on Wednesday 25th Sept at 2pm by local author Barbara Attwood who discusses her book 'Blue Plastic Cow', a true story of Barbara's own adoption by a family who lived in Merseyside. Places are limited and must be booked with staff at the Library.
- All the usual events are happening in September including –
 - Police Help Desk – every 3rd Mon of the month, Mon 16th Sept.
 - Free Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10.30-12noon.
 - Thursday IT helpdesk 11am-1pm.
 - Gardening Club - interested persons can go on the mailing list to be notified about sessions.
 - Creative writing group. Check with Library for details.

Sefton Dementia Action Alliance – contact Jan Campbell: jan.campbell@seftoncvcs.org.uk

SMILE LINES - Church notices that didn't quite make it...

A talk on drugs will be given at the next Mothers' Union meeting. This will be followed by a Bring and Buy Sale.

A sudden gust of wind took all who were at the ceremony by surprise. Hats were blown off and copies of the vicar's speech and other rubbish were scattered over the site.

The Rector is on holiday this month. Local clergy will be celebrating with us all the Sundays that he is away.

SHYIRA



In early July Rev Jacques and his wife Zilpa* welcomed a new baby boy into the family in early July named Kayiganwa, younger brother of his 3-year-old sister, Jessa.

Everyone at St Luke's sends their congratulations and best wishes to Rev Jacques at St Mark's, wife Zilpa and family at this joyous time.

Peace and blessings to them all!

The second photo on the right is of the

Mothers' Union (MU) harvesting the crop of 'cassava' – an edible tuberous plant from which flour, breads, tapioca, a laundry starch and an alcoholic beverage are derived. This was not only going to feed their own families but also to be shared with some of the poorer families instead of selling it to them.



The MU acts as the Social Services in St Mark's parish. They support other groups including AIDS patients, widows, unsupported mothers and orphans. As well as cassava, they plant and harvest maize and buy pigs to breed and sell at market. They also make beautiful crafts for sale – banana leaf cards and various items



crocheted, knitted or weaved. Placement mats in the colours of the MU (shown in the bottom left photo) were brought home by some of those who visited Shyira last October to sell and help fundraise for the MU.

The MU also has a choir, and they carry their banner into church for the Sunday service as part of the vicar's procession.

(*Zilpa heads the MU)

Yvonne Yule

SHYIRA TRUST

An email from Rev Jacques Muragijimana dated 4 August read in part:

'.... St Mark's Church is closed due to lack of soundproofing, insufficient water tanks, lack of fire extinguishers, toilets for children, and disabled facilities.... Local authorities have told us that our church will be opened again, when we have all the facilities they have mentioned. Keep us in your prayers since this wind is stronger than us even though it is not stronger than our Almighty God.'

We pray this is a temporary measure. Remember, God's church is primarily the people and not the building! Rev Jacques informed us on 11 August that they have created a WhatsApp group, and 101 church members are on the group.

- - -

At the behest of Bishop Augustin prior to the pandemic the Trust expanded its remit into Kivu Diocese. As a consequence, it is now supporting 5 ongoing priority projects. They are:

- 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

Bishop Augustin recently sent the Trustees a detailed report on the progress of the projects. The first two were reproduced in our July-August magazine. The third is published in this September edition.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 2022 - MAY 2024

▪ Development of entrepreneurship among youth and women

On July 07-08, 2023, one hundred participants from Gisenyi and Nyamyumba ecclesial districts went through a two-day training in job creation. They comprised jobless young people and women below 40 years of age, all having completed at least three years of secondary education, and at most six years of secondary education. The aim of the training is to equip the women and youth with entrepreneurship skills that enable them fight poverty and improve their living conditions.

The training emphasized the following:

- Developing the desire for entrepreneurship
- Overcoming fear and trusting self-ability to make it
- Choose what you can do best, based on everyone's gifting
- Engage in a business that comes to address a real need on the market (need of market assessment/study)
- Good project design
- The implementation of the project: How to get capital if there is no self-funding ability
- 5 Cs that determine the eligibility for a loan (Character, Capacity, Capital – own, Conditions to meet, and Collateral – mortgage)

The testimony of an active entrepreneur helped deepen the determination of trainees to go and start something. The areas of interest included farming (fruit trees, sugarcane, other crops...; small businesses, livestock (pigs, chickens...). Page 18 shows pictures of how the training went.



Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 1: Innocent KWIZERA, trainer from Business Development Fund (BDF) training on job creation. Everyone is taking notes. Rev. Celestin Ndagijimana, a senior pastor, overseeing the training.

Figure 2: Trainees attentive, getting every detail. **Figure 3:** A bon appétit time!



Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 4: Jean Damascene, an entrepreneur, sharing his testimony on how he quitted lecturing at university and decided to create a job for self-employment.

Figure 5: Group discussions and developing strategies for job creation.

Figure 6: Picture of all participants with two pastors and Frida, the Diocesan secretary.

Similar training took place in Nyange, Shyira and Bigogwe. A total of 340 women and youth were trained in job creation and made study trips to visit successful projects to gain more insights on the ground.



Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure1: Getting ready for the trip.

Figure 2 & 3: Visiting the pig farm of Jean Damascene, one of the trainers.

KD – Shyira Trust Secretary



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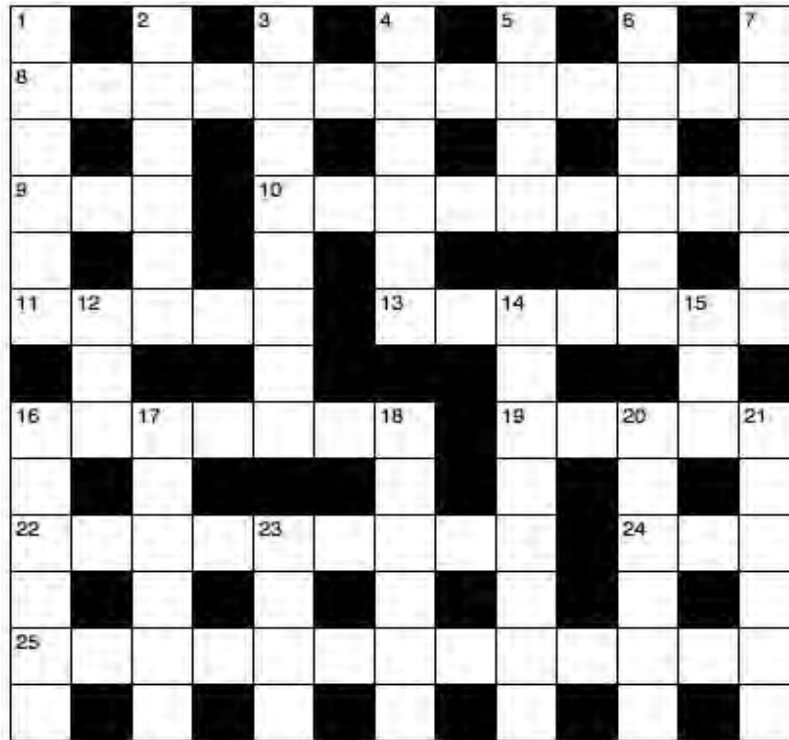
Find me on Facebook & Twitter

Email : cspeakmanestateplanning@gmail.com

Phone No: 07926 587776



CROSSWORD



Across:

- 8 Where the ark of the covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4)
 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have —' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
 16 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger'

(John 8:6) (7)

19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)

22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)

24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the —' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)

25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down:

1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)

2 See 24 Across

3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)

4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)

5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus —' (John 11:35) (4)

6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)

7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)

12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)

14 Second city of Cyprus (8)

15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)

16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)

17 Braved (anag.) (6)

18 — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)

20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)

21 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)

23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

SUDOKU

EASY

MEDIUM

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

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

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(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

.....

WORDSEARCH

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

Michael and All Angels

The Church remembers angels this month, with the feast day of Michael and All Angels on the 29th. The Bible is full of angels, where they often had a key role in crucial events. It seems that Michael is their leader, an 'archangel'. In stained glass he's often seen with a sword, because in the Book of Revelation he leads the angelic host who fight and defeat Satan and his army.

In the Gospels, angels make numerous appearances. Just two examples: Gabriel was sent to Mary to announce the coming of her baby, Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God. Another angel was sent to sit in the empty tomb on Easter morning,

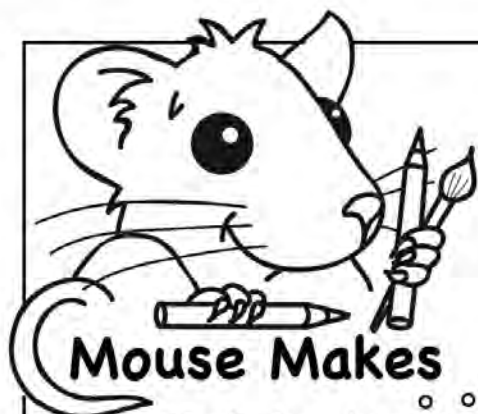
waiting to tell the startled women that Jesus wasn't there - He had risen (Mark 16:5)!

Michael
All
Angels
Key
Crucial

Leader
Stained
Glass
Sword
Angelic

Host
Defeat
Satan
Appearances
Gabriel

Mary
Baby
Jesus
Waiting
Angel



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

"May the peoples
_____ you, O God!
May all the peoples praise you!
The land yields its harvest;
God, our God blesses us."

Psalms 67:5-6 NIV

"God ... has shown kindness by
giving you rain from heaven
and crops in their seasons.
He provides you with
plenty of _____. He fills
your hearts with joy."

Acts 14:16-17 NIV

"Honour the Lord with your wealth
and the first part of your harvest."

Proverbs 3:9 ERV

"Let us fear and respect
the Lord our God.

He gives us autumn and
spring _____

at the right time.

He makes sure that we
have the harvest at
just the right time."

Jeremiah 5:24 ERV

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

HARVEST • THANKSGIVING • LAND • EARTH • FERTILE • SOIL • SEED • SOWN

NEED • WATER • SUN • SEASON • AUTUMN • SPRING • YIELD • PRODUCE

FRUIT • GATHER • CROPS • PLENTY • PRAY • GOD • PROVIDE • JOY

BLESSED • GOODNESS • SHARE

Find the words from the questions too!

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.

DOWN: 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

ANSWERS TO QUESTION ON RESURRECTION (P2)

1, Widow's son in Zarephath (1 Kings 17:17-22). 2, Shunammite woman's son (2 Kings 4:32-37). 3, Man raised by touching Elisha's bones (2 Kings 13:20-21). 4, Lazarus (John 11). 5, Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:41). 6, Young man at Nain (Luke 7:14). 7, Unknown saints during crucifixion (Matt 27:52-53). 8, Jesus. 9, Tabitha / Dorcas (Acts 9:36-42). 10, Eutychus (Acts 20:7-12).



...I take it our local supermarket has a rather good offer on tinned peas at the moment!



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charity
(Lev 27:30)



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