



KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



June - July 2022



Kingsdown Methodist Church



June

- 5 Jun 10.30 Mrs Rekha Cheriyan, Morning Service (Pentecost)
6.30 Rev Rachel Bending, CIRCUIT SERVICE, Kingsdown
- 12 Jun 10.30 Rev Sue Male, Holy Communion, United Service,
Kingsdown
- 19 Jun 10.30 Rev Susan Male, Morning Service
- 26 Jun 11.00 Conference Video Service or Local Arrangement



July

- 3 Jul 10.30 Rev Ajay Singh, Morning Service
- 10 Jul 10.30 Local Arrangement, Morning Service
- 17 Jul 11.00 CIRCUIT SERVICE, Greenford
- 24 Jul 10.30 Rev Susan Male, General Church Meeting
- 31 Jul 10.30 Rev Sue Male, Holy Communion



Aug

- 7 Aug 10.30 Local Arrangement
- 14 Aug 11.00 United Service at Ealing Green
- 21 Aug 10.30 Mr Phil Male, Morning Service
- 28 Aug 11.00 CIRCUIT SERVICE, Hanwell

Front cover picture credit - Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images.

The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

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E-mail: Messenger@questa.co.uk



Dear Friends

My letter will be short and sweet this month because whilst Summer brings holiday times – I have just enjoyed a lovely retreat and a visit to my parents - it also brings mountains of work when you return.



I am sure those of you who are still working know exactly what I mean, and that those of you who have retired have not forgotten!

But Oh the difference!

We have waited long for normal life to return, and – notwithstanding the fact that the virus IS still around – things seem much more usual now:

We have – largely – returned to church

We are moving much more towards worshipping in as full a way as we can

We can eat out

We can have visitors and visit

We can go on holiday

That puts the return to the work mountain in perspective!

And we have the gift of an extra bank holiday next week with fantastic TV, street parties, church etc. etc. ... and the amount of work that the Queen does is astonishing ... and what an example of someone who takes what she believes God is calling her to do and to be seriously ... incredibly seriously. Prayers for her at this time, and wishes of joy for you all.

What is God calling us to now?

We have spent some months re-grouping at church. Now is the time to start thinking about mission again.

Kingsdown is reinstating the Tuesday club And now is the time for you to consider if you would like to attend – whether you did before or not, whether you attend Kingsdown or not. Just turn up from 2pm – 4pm on alternate Tuesdays starting from 14th June

Ealing Green is starting a free coffee morning for everyone on Tuesday mornings from 10am – also from June, also just turn up ... and bring your friends.

But what are our next moves for God. Over the summer we will be meeting to look at the way forward for us as God's people working for Him in His world.

Confirmation or Membership for you?

I would also like to hear from those who would like to be confirmed and become full members of the church. There are many of our young people who have not yet been confirmed and I would love to run a class for them. Be in touch if you are in secondary school or older.

There are also adults who attend the churches but who have not formally become members or been confirmed (or transferred their membership). Please be in touch if this is something you would like to do.... And if you are not sure ... ask God if he would like you to make this further commitment to him. If you are already confirmed and a member, could God be calling you to talk with others about this and to encourage them into a deeper relationship with him? I would love to form an adult group working towards membership too.

Could you lead worship or Preach?

I also say with absolute confidence that there are some in our congregations who God is calling to lead worship and/ or to preach. Please talk to God about this and be in touch with me. I would love to make it happen for you.

Above all take some time to talk with God. The Queen is absolutely sure of her calling. You are probably not called to be Kings or Queens but you do have a calling which is only for you. Can you express what it is? Are you answering that call? Talk to God ... and if it helps I am there to talk to about this too.

Back to the work mountain

Sue



GREAT NEWS

The **TUESDAY CLUB** is restarting with the first meeting on 14th June.
A friendly get together where you can meet old friends and make new

All are welcome. Do come



14th June, 28th June, 12th July, 26th July
Held in Church foyer 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Any information please contact
Jill Richardson (Co-ordinator)



Holy Communion and our part in it



Planned discussions about the meanings within our celebrations of Holy Communion, started on Monday 30th May.

At the first session I talked about “community” and we explored how our celebration of Holy Communion instructs us about this,. This helps us to move more deeply into it. I would also like to address your questions at these sessions – so if you have specific questions or areas you would like to look at send them this way and I will incorporate them. The aim is to make our communion services into greater times of grace by exploring the prayers and our responses to them. Nothing is out of bounds.

We have sessions planned on 27 June and 25 July– for people from any of our three churches from 11.15-12.45 am at Ealing Green Church in the foyer, and then again at 8pm on zoom.

You can just turn up in the morning, although it would help me to know numbers BUT if you want to come in the evening to the Zoom session I will need to know so that I can send you a link. Please let me know, and please send me your questions!

0793 915 0194 or susan.d.male@googlemail.com



Rev Sue Male

Family News

Happy Birthday to Ivy Hanson - with some friends celebrating on her birthday.

The congregation had sung Happy Birthday the day before at Morning Service.



Credit: Shantini Thamotheram



5th June

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" Acts 1:8

We all get tired and battle weary sometimes. The disciples of Jesus had just been through a three-year long roller coaster adventure with Jesus that had culminated in His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven.



The range of emotions would have been hugely taxing in the days leading up to Pentecost, as they remembered Jesus weeping in the garden of Gethsemane, betrayed by Judas, brutally beaten and crucified, and then dead and buried. Then there had been the shock and awe of finding out that He was alive again! But then He had left them again, to return to His Father. By the time the day of Pentecost arrived, the disciples would indeed have welcomed some fresh spiritual fire!

For us today, many of us have felt emotionally drained with the uncertainties caused by Covid 19, the worry of prices rising at an alarming rate, and now the pain and uncertainty of what will happen in the war in Ukraine.

So, what better day to pray for fresh spiritual fire for each of us? As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church, let us thank God that He will never leave us or forsake us.

from Parish Pump



This month the Queen makes history by celebrating her Platinum Jubilee. 70 years in the job!

We join with millions across Britain and the Commonwealth who thank God for Queen Elizabeth's dedication, wisdom, and steadfastness over the past seven decades.

The world has changed so much since 1952. But through it all, our Queen has kept her long-ago promise to the British people, to serve them with all her heart and might. And, because the Queen is a Christian, we know that God has honoured her and helped her in her role.

Truly, God has blessed Queen Elizabeth II, and we thank Him for her.

from Parish Pump

Your Servant Elizabeth

Gracious God, we give You thanks
for the reign of Your servant Elizabeth our Queen,
and for the example of loving and faithful service
which she has shown among us.
Help us to follow her example of dedication
and to commit our lives to You and to one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

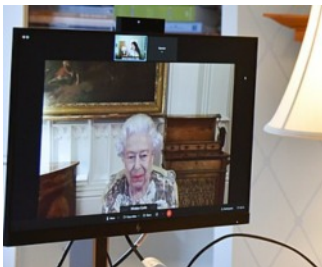
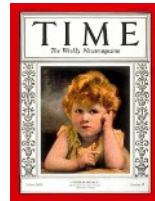
O Lord, the Way, the Truth, and the Life,
we give You thanks for Your servant Elizabeth our
Queen.
May she ever be provided with all she may need
for her ministry among us,
strengthened to meet every demand
which her office may make,
and in all things nourished by Your word and example,
who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign,
world without end.

Amen.

from CofE Prayers



Some memories





Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

with this impressive trifle, winner of the Platinum Pudding competition.



For this recipe you will need 2 Swiss roll tins, measuring approximately 24cmx34cm/9½inx13½in and a trifle dish with capacity of approximately 3.5 litres/6 pints. However, you could always halve the recipe to serve 10.

The full recipe is on:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/lemon_swiss_roll_and_42467

(Your Editors can provide a printed copy if access via the web is not possible.)

From the Circuit

There will be a special Circuit Service at Kingsdown on Sunday 5th June at 18:30 to celebrate and give thanks for the ministry of our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, followed by refreshments. Come along and support them and show them your appreciation. Contributions to the refreshments welcome



Boy's Brigade Newsletter



The 10th Ealing BB Annual Display has been a regular May feature in the Kingsdown Calendar since the late 1960s. For obvious reasons, the 2020 and 2021 Display evenings were cancelled, but we were back with a bang on Friday 20 May 2022.

The Display is the culmination of all the work the Boys have done since the previous September, giving them an opportunity to show-off their skills to their parents, and also to receive badges, awards, promotions and certificates in an appropriate and public setting. To make things even better, we were joined this year by some of our brothers from 4th Ealing.

Fall-In was sounded by our crack bugle team at 7pm sharp, and the entire Company took their places for the opening ceremony, watched by a packed hall of family, friends and Kingsdown supporters. The Company Colours were paraded on and off to the accompaniment of the General Salute, and the evening was dedicated to God in thankful prayer.



Doors and windows were opened to help cope with the humidity, and the Junior Section Drill Squad launched the programme in fine style. A dozen Boys followed an intricate pattern of moves, keeping in step, and showing the dedication that had won our Company the West London trophy several times over the past decade. They were roundly applauded as they left the hall.

The Anchor Boys kept us roundly entertained with their determination to do their very best in the games of Jump The River

and then Limbo. The audience roared with laughter and clapped and cheered as the Boys made greater and greater efforts to leap from mat to mat, and to avoid toppling the ever-lowering bar. As we often remark, despite the amazing discipline and precision of the older chaps, it's always the Anchors who steal the hearts of the audience.

London's finest Drill Squad (that's not hyperbole, we have the trophy to prove it), marched smartly on, and demonstrated just how good they are. The situation was made even more difficult due to lack of space, and also because three of the team had been replaced at the last minute due to minor injuries such as a broken foot and a burst appendix! They were superb and were rightly cheered as they repeated their award-winning routine.

The Juniors returned in their PE kit for a fun game of noughts and crosses, but played with a twist. Nine large hoops were placed on the floor and two teams were given coloured bean bags, and the event became not just a test of cunning but also a test of speed as each player had to sprint back to base to collect his next bag. Great fun!

The Company and Senior Sections then participated in a three-team human pyramid competition just for fun, and to show how on a Friday night we'll just throw in a good old-fashioned game to get the Boys thinking and working together. All three groups excelled but it was the Seniors who took the honours on the day.



The vaulting box and safety equipment were set up, and the audience all leaned in for one of the evening's highlights: the Gymnastic Display. All four age-sections took a turn at hurling themselves over our trusty wooden horse, and there were gasps of amazement as the box was raised higher still for the older Boys. It truly was a marvellous



sight, performed at top speed, and with considerable skill from every single member.

While the Boys changed into uniform backstage, the Captain thanked all present for their support of the Company, and offered the audience a review of the year and a vision of the year ahead, speaking about the importance of the BB Object, and the essential nature of rites of passage in the lives of Boys and young men.

And then came the finale: our magnificent Marching Band filled the floor and performed their trophy-winning routine to thunderous applause. Parents, as well as the Anchors and Juniors, could hardly believe how well the Band had re-established itself after an 18-month break, but the proof was right there for them to see. It was a perfect ending to a perfect evening.



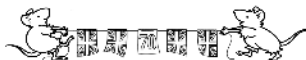


Boys of 4th and 10th Ealing were presented with the awards and certificates, and the respective Captains had the honour of passing out President's Badges, Queen's Badges, Staff-Sergeant Stripes and Honourable Discharge papers to the most remarkable bunch of young men in Ealing.

The meeting closed in prayer, and when Last Post sounded there was not a dry eye in the house. The Annual Display was a wonderful tribute to the volunteer staff, to the many staff who had gone before, but most importantly, to the Boys themselves. Bravo!

Sure and Steadfast.

Tony Plews
Captain



A prayer of adoration

Father God, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, from the throne room with an invitation to come, to follow and see your glory.

We come and we glorify your name.

You are the one true God, righteous and just.

We come and we glorify your name.

God of judgement, power and joy.

We come and we glorify your name.

Bright morning star, all-inclusive God.

We come and we glorify your name.

Amen.

from Kingsdown Morning Service



The **Methodist Church** 

Justice Conversations – were you at Kingsdown on 1st May?

What does a just world look like to you? Perhaps it's a place where everyone has more than enough to eat? Where every child in the world has a happy childhood? Where nonviolence is seen as the best way of achieving peace? Or our lifestyles enable people and planet to thrive?

In different ways we will all have experienced what justice feels like – peace, freedom, community, solidarity, being heard, having what you deserve, having more than you deserve. But many of us may have experienced injustice too, through experiences of poverty, exclusion, racism, violence or marginalisation.

Why does this matter to us as Christians? Well, justice is at the very heart of God's nature, so as God's followers we both encounter God's justice and we reflect it in the world. The prophet Micah says: "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God". This call to justice has been a strong one through the history of the Methodist Church, and is part of the Methodist Way of Life.

At this crucial time of change in the world, the Methodist Church, through the Walking with Micah project, is exploring what it means to be a justice-seeking church today. How should our Church challenge injustice and support others in working for justice in the future? What matters to Methodists today? Local churches have been invited to hold Justice Conversations and send in their feedback to help shape what the Methodist Church does in the future. Kingsdown members, including our young people, took part in this project during the service on 1st May.

But there is still time to complete your responses to the postcard questions if you wish – but you have only until 20th June.

Please ask Kathleen Loveridge, or pick up a postcard from the Foyer, and return it to Kathleen. It can then be sent with those from all three of Sue Male's churches.

You can find out more about the Walking with Micah project here - www.methodist.org.uk/walkingwith-micah/

Kathleen Loveridge



Christ has No Hands

During the last session of the Monday evening Lent group led by Rev Sue Male, more than one person mentioned writers who made reference to poems or readings that say 'Christ has no hands'. The message, of course is that Christ can only work through us and the actions we take in the here and now. Here is a translation of a poem I found while on holiday in Genova in 2012

Christ has no hands,
He has only our hands
To do his work today.

Christ has no feet,
He has only our feet
To go to people today.

Christ has no voice,
He has only our voice
To speak of Him today.

Christ has no strength,
He has only what we can do
To guide people to Him.

We are the only Bible
That the peoples still read.
We are the only evangelist
Written in deeds and words

Gerald Barton

Ukraine Emergency Appeal Update

The logo consists of the words "ALL WE CAN" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The text is centered within a yellow rectangular background that is tilted slightly to the right.

We have been working with humanitarian aid partners, as well as the United Methodist Church in Ukraine and the countries surrounding Ukraine, to help meet the immediate needs of those impacted by the crisis.

Since the middle of March, our humanitarian aid partner has been working in Poland as well as West and Central Ukraine to provide rapid emergency assistance to Ukrainian refugees who have fled to Poland for protection and support, and to the internally displaced people affected by the escalation of conflict in Ukraine.

Through the appeal, we are helping support their work in several key areas: trauma-sensitive mental healthcare in Ukraine delivered by psychologists and mental health professionals; psychological First Aid training for staff and volunteers in Poland, so that they can best support refugees in reception centres manage stress; hygiene kits; and kits of essential items such as towels, bedlinen, cleaning supplies and toiletries for those fleeing the violence. We hope that through the generosity of donors, more than 4,000 people will be reached through this the response.

Through the Ukraine Emergency Appeal, we are also partnering with the United Methodist Church in Ukraine and with the UMC in countries in the region, helping them respond to the vast number of people fleeing from the war. These efforts will focus on finding accommodation for refugees as well as giving food, hygiene products, medicine, and helping with expenses such as rent, travel, and communication. We'll continue this support throughout 2022.

In the weeks and months ahead, we'll also be using funds raised from the appeal to help meet the longer-term needs of refugees and internally displaced Ukrainians.

This support will include cash transfers to those displaced by the crisis and local organisations supporting them – a flexible, dignified way to help those most in need.

Anemone



From an original watercolour by
Joy Hynes



Bee having tea!!
Kew Gardens



Chilhully Glass Exhibition - Kew Gardens

Changes

*I sit in my prayer seat in the morning
I do my readings and then say my prayers
I look outside and am amazed by the changing weather
Sunny and spring-like one day then next heavy frost and fog
surround us . . . Everywhere.*

*Lord, whatever the weather that comes with these changes
We are grateful for and love your beautiful world
May we on our part tend it carefully
And so watch our beautiful world being unfurled.*

*In the same way our lives go up and down
We have good days full of joy and pleasure
And others that are full of trouble and strife
Help us appreciate them all and learn your lessons
in full measure.*

*Thank you that I always have you to turn to
That you are always there to hear our prayers
May you lead us in the way you want our lives to travel
And may we willingly help others here and everywhere.*

*There are so many people in the world living in fear
In countries where people are wickedly threatened with
violence and gloom.*

*May we pray for the fear and violence to be overcome
So that those people can live in peace to worship you in safety
very soon.*

© Diana Dishley

Before U

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God even stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Now go into the world and tell them it's true
That the love I have shown is not just for U."

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know,

But it all starts with U.

Author unknown



I tried taking my car in for a service yesterday. It wouldn't fit through the Church doors.

12th June -Trinity Sunday

Without the Trinity, there is no Christianity

The Trinity is easier to say than to explain. Christians believe in one God, made up of three equal Persons. It is fundamental to the Nicene Creed, which sets out the definitive doctrine of the Trinity for more than two billion Christians worldwide, including all Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans, Lutherans, Presbyterians and Reformed Christians.

The theologian Ian Paul, writing on the Book of Revelation, points out that chapter five has a wonderful depiction of the Trinity in action. He writes: "...another figure appears in the drama, the lion who looks like a lamb. ... Here is the one who fulfils the hopes of God's people Israel, as the promised anointed Davidic king who was to come. Here is one who is fierce and powerful enough to conquer their enemies, and tear them apart.

"And yet when John sees Him, He is like a weak and vulnerable lamb who has been slaughtered, just as the Passover lamb eaten by the people, the suffering servant who was 'wounded for our transgressions' and the lamb offered as an atoning sacrifice. He is the one who was slain, but now stands, and shares the throne with God, and with Him sends the Spirit to enact His will on earth. Here we have the most explicit (and perhaps the most complex) Trinitarian statement in the whole New Testament."

From the Revd Dr Ian Paul's blog at:

<https://www.psephizo.com/revelation/what-does-rev-4-5-tell-us-about-the-trinity/> (dated May 17, 2017)

Happens

Stress makes you believe everything has to happen immediately.

Faith reassures you that everything happens in God's timing.

19th June - Father's Day

A time to celebrate male role models



In the UK, USA and Canada, the third Sunday in June is Father's Day. It's usually a good time for sons and daughters to take their father to his favourite restaurant, or to watch a favoured sport, or whatever else he enjoys doing.

How will you celebrate it this year? If your own father cannot be with you, how about a Zoom meeting?

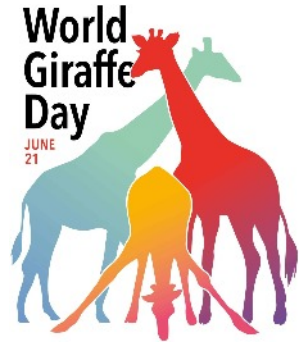
How do these special days ever get started, anyway? Well, Father's Day began because way back in 1909 there was a woman in Spokane, Washington, named Sonora Louise Smart Dodd. That year she heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Louise the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers, and in particular, her own father, William Jackson Smart.

Sonora Louise soon set about planning the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane in 1910. With support from the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA, her efforts paid off, and a 'Father's Day' was appointed. Sonora Louise had wanted Father's Day to be on the first Sunday in June (since that was her father's birthday), but the city council didn't have time to approve it until later in the month. And so on June 19th, 1910, the first Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane.

Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. The rose was selected as the official Father's Day flower. Some people began to wear a white rose to honour a father who was dead, and a red one to honour a father who was living. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day – a permanent, national holiday.

21st June World Giraffe Day

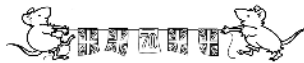
World Giraffe Day is an exciting annual event initiated by GCF to celebrate the tallest animal on the longest day or night (depending on which hemisphere you live!) of the year – 21 June – every year!



Not only is it a worldwide celebration of these amazing and much-loved animals, but an annual event to raise support, create awareness and shed light on the challenges giraffe face in the wild. By supporting World Giraffe Day (WGD), you directly help save giraffe in Africa. With only approximately 117,000 giraffe remaining in the wild, the time is right to act NOW!

Zoos, schools, NGOs, governments, institutions, companies and conservation organisations around the world are hosting events on or around WGD to raise awareness and support for giraffe in the wild. Check out who else is celebrating.

<https://giraffeconservation.org/world-giraffe-day/>



Bread

*Be gentle when you touch bread
Let it not lie uncared for, unwanted
Too often bread is taken for granted
There is such beauty in bread
Beauty of sun and soil
Beauty of patient toil
Wind and rain have caressed it
Christ often blessed it
Be gentle when you touch bread*



Women's Land Army verse in a Christmas Card 1941

Submitted by Mary Osborne

Behold, enfold, hold

*The Father who created me
With eye benign beholdeth me;
The Son who dearly purchased me
With eye divine enfoldeth me;
The Spirit who so altered me
With eye refining holdeth me;
In friendliness and love the Three
Behold me when I bend the knee.*

From an old Celtic prayer



Hear our Prayer

**O hear our prayer, dear Father
To us incline Your ear!
O righteous, loving Father
Allow us to draw near;
With heartfelt supplications
We seek Your loving grace
With earnest intercessions
We come to seek Your face.**

**Your kindness ev'ry morning
We trust we'll find in prayer
We lift our hands before You
We reach out for Your care;
O teach us, Father, teach us
Your gentle, loving way,
For You alone are able
To guide us every day.**

by Nigel Beeton

Heavenly Father

Thank you for the beauty of the world you created, so evident in this lovely month of June.

We bring before you, in prayer, those events going on in the world which are so difficult to understand. We pray for all your children who are suffering in any way, especially those affected by war. Please, Lord, comfort them, assure them of your presence – and deliver them from evil.

May we appreciate each day which you have made. Help us to rejoice and be glad in the gift of each new day – and to trust you for all our tomorrows, knowing that in you alone is our security.

In Jesus' name. Amen

Daphne Kitching



Christian Aid and the World Food Programme are standing together.

We partner with the WFP because it has the operational ability, scale and resources to deliver assistance to those in greatest need. Christian Aid has deep connections with local communities, so our teams on the ground are able to direct aid where it is needed the most.

Christian Aid's approach involves working in partnership with communities. People are at the heart of all we do. We ensure that they participate fully in this work and tell us what is most needed in their homes and communities.

Standing together, we are providing a lifeline for the families who need this support so urgently. The support we supply through this partnership is flexible and adaptable to local contexts, giving us the ability to deliver what communities really need, and to change as their needs evolve over time.

Our programme aims to break the cycle of food insecurity and support people to re-establish their self-reliance.

War in Ukraine now affecting food aid programmes

The huge outpouring of support for Ukraine is now eclipsing other crises around the world, which in turn is threatening millions with starvation.

So warns a number of charities and other humanitarian organisations. The UN reports that the situation in Somalia, where 4.5million people are at risk of starvation owing to the worst drought in a decade, is deteriorating quickly. Somalia urgently needs some £1.1billion in aid, of which only three per cent has been secured.

As one spokesman at the UN explains, "The outlook for Somalia was already grim prior to the outbreak of the Ukraine crisis, but we were then overshadowed by the crisis in Tigray, Yemen, and then Afghanistan. Now, Ukraine seems to suck all the oxygen that is in the room."

The international director of Tearfund, Veena O'Sullivan, said: "While the eyes of the world have been fixed on Ukraine, other horrors have been taking place."

These range from a "hunger crisis of massive proportions" in the Horn of Africa, which includes Somalia, and the ongoing violence and famine in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, as well as humanitarian crises in Afghanistan, Yemen and Syria.

The director of CAFOD, Christine Allen, said: "It is right that we support a response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, in whatever way we can, but this cannot be at the expense of vital funds meant for tackling the root causes of global poverty."

Meanwhile, church leaders in Africa have warned that the war is already affecting their food security, as 40 per cent of Ukraine's wheat and maize is exported to the Middle East and Africa. The poorest are the most affected, as market prices rise.

From Parish Pump

From Daily Mail Online -

During 2021 the LTN traffic cameras in Culmington Road, Ealing raised £960,000 in penalty fines making it the third most lucrative junction in London!

On Reflection – Leviticus Trying to be Holy?

Have you ever tried to read from Genesis to Revelation? If you have, I can imagine that when you arrived at Leviticus, you found it dry and boring. What can this book possibly have to say to us? It was written to another culture thousands of years ago and focuses on animal sacrifice. So why would God put it in the Bible?

You've heard the saying 'you can take the girl out of Liverpool (or wherever) but you can't take Liverpool out of the girl'. Well, that's a picture of how it was for the Israelites. They had been slaves in Egypt for so long that their Jewish heritage and their understanding of God was highly compromised. God wanted to remind them of who he was and more than that, of how holy he is. He wanted them to know how to worship him.

Some of the laws given in Leviticus may have been to protect the people's health, but most were so that they would be reminded of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And of his faithfulness, holiness, and power. God had made an everlasting covenant, or agreement, with Abraham and the Jewish nation. As with any contract, there were benefits if you kept to the agreement and sanctions if you didn't. As human beings, they were unable to keep their part of the agreement. They kept sinning, just as we do. They needed a Saviour, just as we do.

It wasn't yet time for Jesus to come, so God introduced animal sacrifice. This was his way for the people to repent of their sins and appease his wrath. It may seem horrific to us in our age of animal rights but think of Jesus' death. That too was horrific. He was blooded, broken, had thorns in his head, nails in his hands and feet, an open back from the lashes and he was naked as he hung on the cross. But he gave his life to buy us back from a sinful world. Until then, God's wrath was appeased by the shedding of an innocent animal's blood.

In chapter 10, two of Aaron's sons who had been ordained as priests, went to minister, and somehow got it wrong. Verse 2 tells us they offered profane or 'unholy' fire to God and as a result they lost their lives.

God is holiness. It's not just an attribute, it's who he is. Sin comes between us and God. And yet, he wants a relationship with each of us. And that's why we have Leviticus. It teaches us the lengths God will go to to be able to live with his chosen people and why at the right time, he sent his son so that the need for animal sacrifice would be over. We are precious, blood-bought children of God. Let us try, as God asks us in chapter 11:44 to 'be holy, as he is holy'.

Elizabeth Spiers
ACE Forum



July 3rd, 2022

Arun Menon - Viola

with Daniel King Smith on Piano

Acton Hill Church

Arun Menon born in London began his music studies at the Newham Academy. He studied viola with Simon Rowland-Jones and Andriy Viytovych and violin with Dona Lee Croft at the Royal College of Music, where he gained bachelors and masters degrees. Whilst there he was a winner of the Royal Overseas League Bernard Shore Viola Competition and co-principal of Southbank Sinfonia.

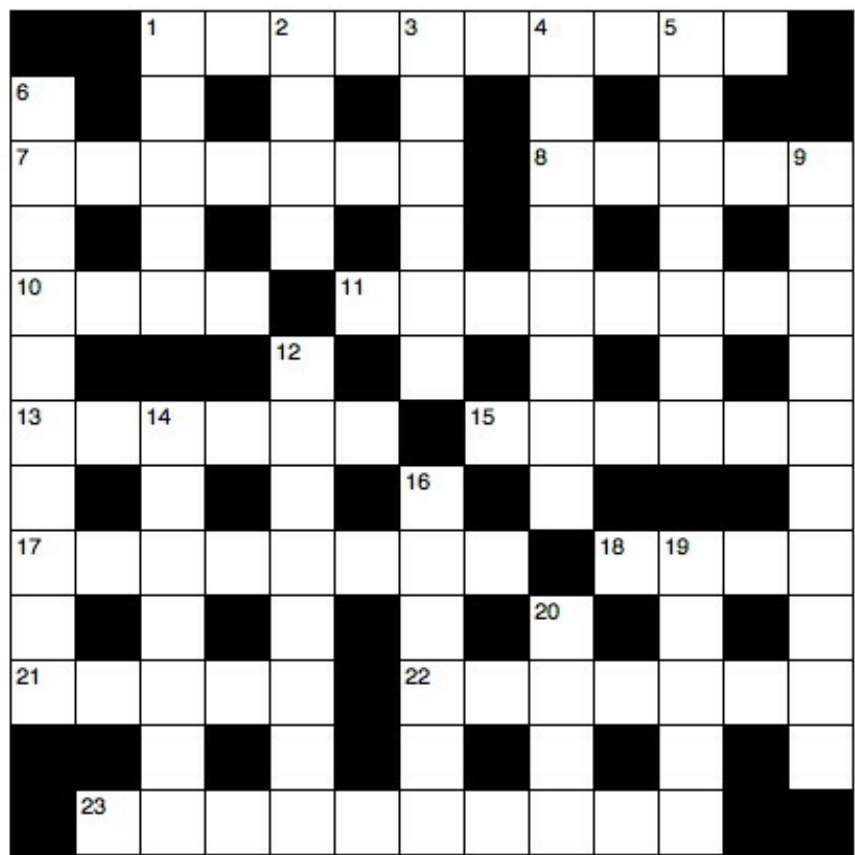


As an orchestral musician he has played in venues such as the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Vienna Konzerthaus and Carnegie Hall, New York. He has been a regular extra player with the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House and the London Symphony Orchestra, as well as a frequent guest principal and co-principal with Birmingham Royal Ballet. He now works as a doctor in the NHS.

Do come along and join us – the first Sunday of every month (except January) at 4pm-5pm. Programmes at the door: Adults £6.00, Concessions £5.00, children £2.00. Crèche facilities available.

Details also on the church website www.actonhillurc.org.uk

Crossword for June - July



Answers on p31



Stairs

As you get older, you’ve got to stay positive. For example, the other day I fell down the stairs. Instead of getting upset, I just thought, “Wow, that’s the fastest I’ve moved in years.”

Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)
- 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)
- 21 'As for man,his days are like—,he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

Down

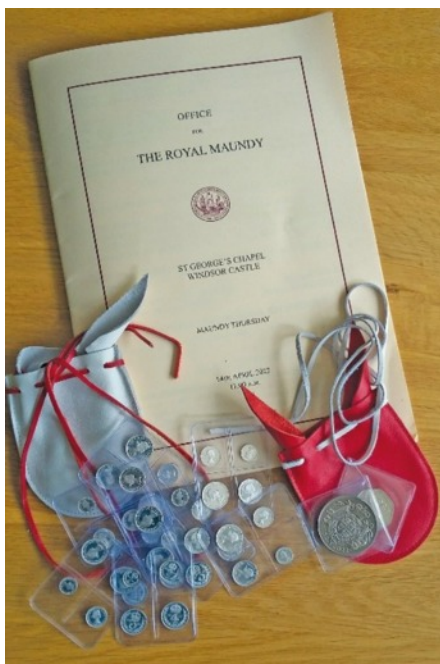
- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
- 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)
- 14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)
- 16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"'(Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — himglory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)

Purse Strings? A personal aside!

The idea of holding the purse strings dates from the mid-15th century in *The Book of Margery Kempe*, where it refers to a string used to close a leather purse. It may surprise you, as it did me, that such purses are still in use today.

The picture below is of two purses with strings I was given during the annual Maundy Thursday service in St George's Chapel in which The Queen traditionally presents Maundy Money to members of the congregation for their service to the Church. The number of male and female recipients being the same as her age.

Because of the Queen's mobility issues, Prince Charles distributed the purses this year. Thus, this year, 96 women and 96 men received two leather purses with strings for their voluntary service to their church (of whom I was proud to have been one, especially because my nomination included my work with parish magazines).



One purse included specially minted silver coins to the value of the amount originally given by the monarch in the 1600's – this year it was a £5 Jubilee crown and a 50p Jubilee piece – and the other held specially minted 1p, 2p, 3p, and 4p silver coins to the sum of 96p.

All are legal tender, although I would be surprised if my local shop would accept a silver 3p or 4p coin! As I am known in my family for my lack of financial wisdom, they will be the only purse strings that I am ever likely to hold!

Bob Peters, ACE Forum

Credit : Bob Peters

Woven

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THEME:

PROPHETIC LIVING AND PEACE MAKING

A weekend of fun and fellowship, exploring Christ's challenge to live truthfully and to walk justly

Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th July 2022

High Leigh Conference Centre,
Hoddesdon, EN11 8SG

Woven

LONDON DISTRICT
OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH

Keynote Speaker



Revd Ruth Harvey of the Iona Community will be joining us as our Keynote Speaker on the topic of Prophetic Living and Peace Making.

<https://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/weekendaway>



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

DOWN: 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils, 20, Give.