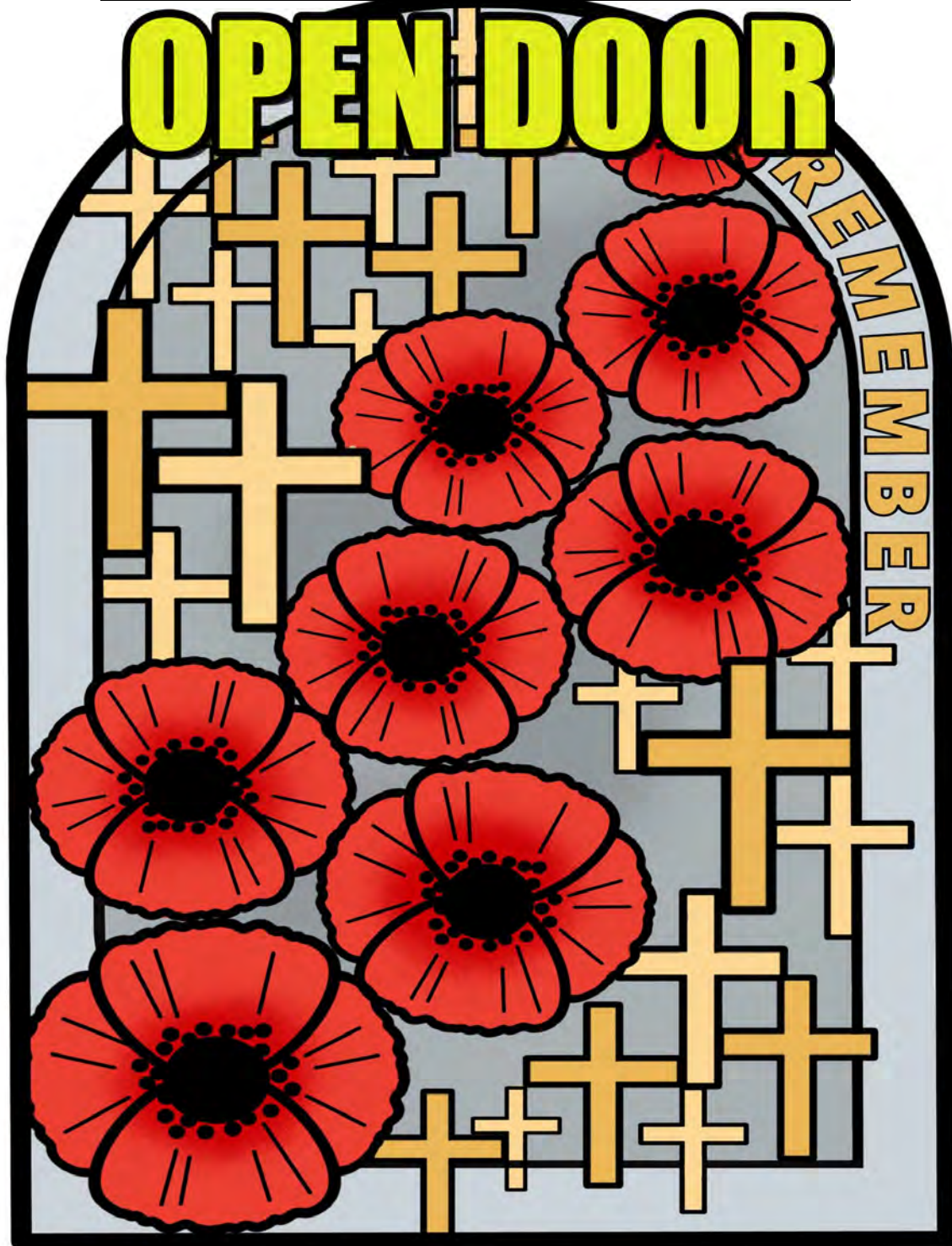


October/November 2026



W
The Thurstable
& Winstree
Team Ministry



£1.00

**For Churches in Tiptree, Tolleshunt Knights,
Great Braxted, Messing & Inworth**

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www.thurstablewinstree.org

**Deadline for the next edition: December 2026/January 2027
Sunday 8th November 2026.**

Items for the magazine: can be emailed to thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com or delivered to St Luke's Parish Office or sent to m.borgartz@btinternet.com

From the ministry team

We are so lucky in all of our villages to be surrounded by beautiful countryside which can give us numerous opportunities to disengage from life's challenges as we take time to walk around the countryside where sheep roam freely in the fields. We have winding country lanes offering woodland, wildflowers, a huge variety of birds and animal life, where ancient churches are nearby, and the glorious views that are simply breath-taking.

As I take time, when I can, to wander aimlessly around I find myself contemplating these beautiful surroundings and the wonder of creation which we all enjoy in and around our villages, and for which we should never cease to be thankful.



Having the time to sit and contemplate in such wonderful surroundings reminds me so much about St Francis of Assisi whose life the church remembers and gives thanks for each year on 4th October. Francis of Assisi, was a Friar, Deacon and Founder of the Friars Minor. Born in Italy in 1181, he had a rebellious youth but as a young man he took to caring for disused churches. In 1206 Francis began to receive "visitations", which led him to abandon entirely the way he was living. It was after an evening of revelry with his friends, he suddenly had a powerful sense that God was calling him to embrace poverty. He discarded the trappings of wealth and found Christ in the simple life. Around this time he met a leper, whom he felt compelled to embrace in the name of Christ. Francis embraced a life of radical Christian discipleship as he interpreted it being depicted in the gospels.

Francis became a mystic with a special interest in nature. He continually sought out remote and silent places to be alone with God and contemplate the wonders of God's creation. He loved the natural world and there are the stories of him preaching to birds and taming a wolf. Some regard him as the first environmentalist. But primarily he was an evangelist, a winner of souls.

Francis of Assisi became one of the most popular saints in history. He was a poet and a man who inspired large numbers of people to give away all that they possessed and live as poor vagrants. His message of simplicity is enormously challenging for the Church and world today in an age when comfort and security are often regarded as the best things we can have, whilst there are still too many people who have very little. Francis challenges us to a simpler more open way of life, to pray, to think about our own discipleship, and to continue to care for our countryside, our animals and all that is entrusted to us.

With my love and prayers

Revd Liz

ST LUKE'S CHURCH, TIPTREE – CELEBRATING 170 YEARS

The weekend of the 16th, 17th & 18th October is a very special one for St Luke's Church as we will be celebrating our 170th Anniversary.

We will start with a special concert by KYDS Drama group on Friday 16th in the evening. Tickets for this will be available to purchase shortly.

On Saturday morning (17th), we will be hosting a History Display and Coffee morning in the Church Hall charting the various decades of the church. There's a lot of history to learn and this will include a talk by local Historian Elaine Bamford at 11am. Come and learn all about our history whilst enjoying a delicious bacon roll, piece of cake, a cup of tea or coffee and a chat with friends.

On Saturday evening there will be a further concert in the church performed by Vocalise, Tiptree. Tickets for this concert are now available from Don Tyler Opticians. Price £10.

We will end our weekend of celebrations on Sunday morning with a special church service conducted by the Archdeacon of Colchester, The Venerable Ruth Patten, and after the service we will cut a celebration cake donated by Sarah York Cakes.

We really hope you will come along, join in and help us celebrate one, if not all of our events. If you have any questions and want any more information about the weekend please email Sandra Redgewell or Sheila Gunson at foslbookings@gmail.com

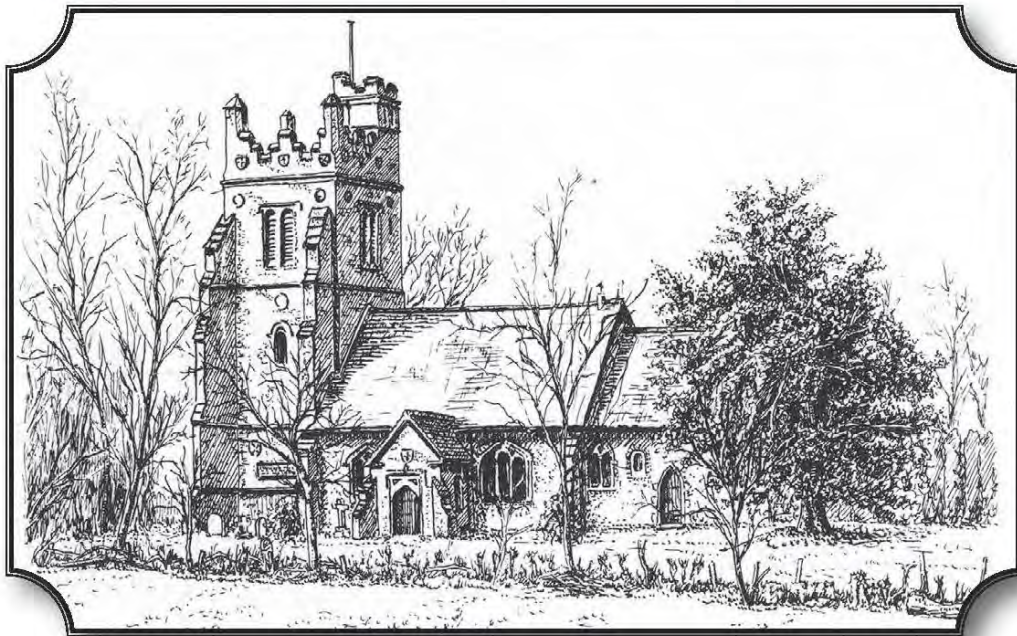
Team Rector update

As reported in the last issue of Open Door there were no applicants for the second round of advertising for the post of Team Rector. The post has now been re advertised in The Church Times with a slightly changed joint advert with the Team Vicar post and on the Chelmsford Diocese website. The closing date for applications is 21st October with potential interviews taking place in December. Please continue to pray that the right person may be called to join us as Team Rector.



Inworth Church

Harvest Festival Celebrations



Saturday 3rd October 12:30 - 4:30pm

Sunday 4th October 12:30 - 4:30pm

Thanksgiving Service, at 11.15 on Sunday

**The Church will be decorated
Teas, Coffees and Cake
Everyone welcome**

Memories of Inworth

*We will have some interesting
photographs on display
of Inworth over the years.*



Inworth Church is in the village of Inworth on the B1023
between Feering and Tiptree.

All proceeds towards the upkeep of this beautiful Church

Books of the Bible

Canon Paul Hardingham

Old Testament: Daniel

The book of Daniel describes his life in Babylon during the sixth century B.C., when he served both Babylonian and Persian rulers.

As a teenager, Daniel and his three friends were deported in 605 B.C. to Babylon, where he lived for over 70 years. They were trained as officials in King Nebuchadnezzar's court for three years. Their names and diets were changed to reflect Babylonian culture and take away their Jewish identity. However, Daniel and his friends showed the superiority of their Jewish diet and gained the favour of the king.

Chapters 1-6 are largely narrative, with Daniel and his friends (renamed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego) demonstrating that God is in control. The three friends refused to worship the pagan Babylonian gods and were thrown into a fiery furnace. However, they emerged unharmed because of God's miraculous protection. He also delivered Daniel from a den of lions when he refused to worship the Persian king Darius. Daniel also interpreted several visions and dreams for King Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar. The second half of the book (chaps.7-12) consists of a series of visions, which show that God is in control of history.

The book affirms that God is the sovereign ruler of the world and rewards His faithful servants, as expressed by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego: *'If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.'* (Daniel 3: 17,18)

Old Testament: The Minor Prophets

The Minor Prophets are '*minor*' not because they lack importance, but due to their length. The 12 prophets, Hosea through Malachi, make up the last books of the Old Testament, and were written from around 770 BC (Jonah) until 433 BC (Malachi).

The prophets fall into 3 time-periods:

Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah and Nahum = Assyrian period

Habakkuk and Zephaniah = Babylonian period

Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi = Post-exilic period.

Hosea and Amos spoke to Israel (Northern Kingdom), calling the people to acknowledge their sin and return to God. Joel and Micah addressed Judah (Southern Kingdom), including prophecies about the coming of the Messiah and the church. Habakkuk and Zephaniah spoke to Judah shortly before they were taken into exile into Babylon. Obadiah spoke God's judgment against the Edomites, while Jonah and Nahum both spoke against Assyria and their capital city of Ninevah. Following the people's return from exile, Haggai exhorted the people not to neglect rebuilding the Temple. Zechariah encouraged them with the promise

of the future glory of Zion and of its shepherd king, while Malachi reminded them that if he is rejected, God would judge His people.

The minor prophets remind us that God cared not just for the Jews, but also for the Edomites, Assyrians, Egyptians and all of His creation. For Christians today the challenge remains to take the message of God's grace to all nations in the power of the Holy Spirit: *'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.'* (Joel 2:28, 29)

Parish Pump

100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh

Tim Lenton considers a much-loved bear...

One hundred years ago, on 14th October 1926, the children's book *Winnie-the-Pooh*, by A A Milne, was published.

It was set in the Hundred Acre Wood, an innocent world described as "largely Edenic" but based on Ashdown Forest in East Sussex, which the Milne family often explored from their home in nearby Hartfield. It came about through the encouragement of E H Shepard, Milne's colleague on the humorous magazine *Punch*, who provided the beguiling illustrations.

Alan Alexander Milne was firstly a playwright and occasional mystery story writer who, again with Shepard, wrote the book of children's verse *When We Were Very Young*, which contained the seeds of *Winnie-the-Pooh* and its sequel, *The House on Pooh Corner*, all of which proved extremely popular.

It was apparently during a family visit to London Zoo, where Christopher Robin encountered a tame bear called Winnipeg, that the book was conceived. Winnie's literary friends, such as Piglet and Eeyore, were originally toys of the real Christopher Robin.

Sadly, the book eventually had an adverse effect on the Milne family. The author said that he felt "amazement and disgust" at the fame his son had had thrust upon him: "I do not want C R Milne to ever wish that his name was Charles Robert." Nevertheless, the son did become estranged from his parents, especially following his marriage to his mother's niece.

The effect of the book on others has been happier. A plaque at Ashdown Forest declares that Milne and Shepard "captured the magic of Ashdown Forest and gave it to the world".

Despite creating a kind of Eden, Milne, who was a pacifist, said little about religion. But he did say on joining the Home Guard that "in fighting Hitler we are truly fighting the Devil, the Anti-Christ ... Hitler was a crusader against God."

The four Winnie-the-Pooh books went on to sell more than 50 million copies worldwide. The first book became the first-ever foreign-language book on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

Parish Pump



Safe Spaces

Church-related Abuse Service

0300 303 1056

Safe Spaces is a free, independent service for adults who have experienced abuse by someone in the Church.

This includes abuse linked to:

- The Church of England
- The Catholic Church in England and Wales
- The Church in Wales

Safe Spaces offers emotional support, practical help, and advocacy to adults aged 18 and over, whether the abuse happened recently or many years ago.

Support may include

 Emotional support

 Space to be heard

 Support and advise you

 Be non-judgmental

 Keep everything confidential

 Advocacy on your behalf

 Online support with meetings or appointments

 Information about compensation

 Signpost for other services

 Help understanding safeguarding, reporting, or criminal justice



SCAN TO LEARN MORE

or visit
www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/

**You are believed, and you stay
in control of every step.**



How Tyndale affects what you say - today

It is 500 years since William Tyndale printed the very first English translation of the New Testament.

And hundreds of millions of people today are still quoting him, though they don't know it. For in 1526 Tyndale invented what would become some of the most famous idioms in the English-speaking world.

For instance –

"The salt of the earth"; "Go the extra mile"; "The powers that be"; "Eat, drink and be merry"; "A city on a hill"; "The apple of his eye"; "In the twinkling of an eye"; "Signs of the times"; "My brother's keeper"; "Fight the good fight"; "Broken-hearted"; "Fallen flat on his face."

These phrases were all invented by Tyndale, during his translation from the original Greek of the New Testament.

As a young Catholic priest in England, Tyndale had been inspired by Martin Luther's groundbreaking translation of the Bible into German, and he went to work doing the same for English speakers. No wonder that the Bible Society describes Tyndale as a 'background radical' during Henry VIII's reign (he's mentioned in *Wolf Hall* but doesn't get involved in the action).

Tyndale invented words, too, when he couldn't find a direct English equivalent for a Greek or Hebrew concept. Here are just some:

Scapegoat: To describe the goat burdened with the sins of the people and sent into the wilderness.

Atonement: Literally "at-one-ment", created to describe being at one with God.

Passover: Coined to describe the Jewish holiday where the angel of death passed over the homes of the Israelites.

Busybody: Invented to describe someone who meddles in other people's business.

Tyndale's work has survived multiple revisions of the Bible down the centuries. It is found in the Authorised Version of the Bible, the RSV, the ASV or the ESV, among others.

More at Bible Society's website: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk> Just type 'Tyndale' into its 'search' box.

Parish Pump

The poppies of Remembrance

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

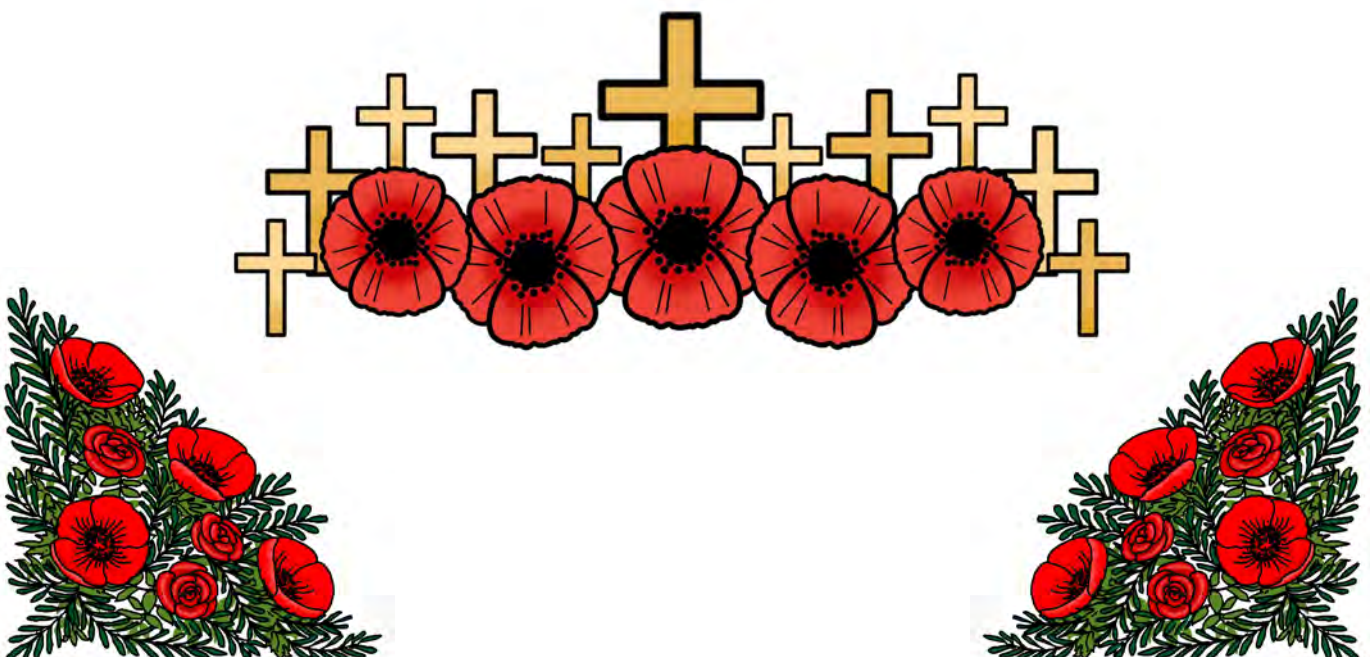
We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.

Parish Pump



Signs found in modern kitchens....

1. If a messy kitchen is a happy kitchen, this kitchen is delirious.
2. No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes.
3. A husband is someone who takes out the rubbish and gives the impression he just cleaned the whole house.
4. If we are what we eat, then I'm easy, fast, and cheap.
5. A balanced diet is a biscuit in each hand.
6. Thou shalt not weigh more than thy refrigerator.
7. A clean house is a sign of a misspent life.
9. Help keep the kitchen clean — eat out.
10. Many people have eaten in this kitchen and gone on to lead normal lives.

Parent & Toddlers at St Luke's

Meet here every
MONDAY morning
9.15am - 11.15am

(includes holidays, but not bank holidays) photo by Marcus Spiske Unsplash



Everyone welcome! Parents
or carers, grandparents,
friends and childminders.



Meet up, have a chat, relax and play!



There is a small charge of
£2.00 per family - drinks &
biscuits are included



Further information from Margaret Peek 01621 810804
or Maureen Horn 01621 817497

Book the Hall

for your meeting, group or event

we are in St Luke's Church Extension, St Luke's Church,
Church Road, Tiptree, CO5 0SU



**Good rates and
improved facilities!**



Hourly Rate:

£20 - regular bookings

£23 - one-off bookings

both including use of all facilities & kitchen

Wi-fi available for group leaders or speakers

(discuss your needs when making your booking)



Bookings & Enquiries to:

Gareth Williams: 07857 632603

hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Find us on Facebook:  /tiptreechurchhall

Regular Hall Bookings, at St Luke's:

For all hall bookings call Gareth Williams

07857 632603

Email: hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Weekly	Morning:	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	Parent & Toddlers; Chair Yoga		Vocalise Choir
Tuesday	Tiptree Volunteers Coffee Morning, (2 nd & 4 th Tues)	Chair Pilates, Up in Lights Dance, Ballroom Dancing	
Wednesday	Slimming World		regular private booking
Thursday	Sound Collective Coffee Morning & Choir	U3A Choir (2 nd & 4 th Thurs)	
Friday	Tiptree Art Club	Chair Pilates	
Sunday	Coffee after Service	KYDS Youth Drama Society	

Monthly

Sunday	Sunday Club <i>please contact the church for details – thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com</i>		
Monday	Singing for the Brain (Tiptree Community Hub Group – 2 nd & 4 th Monday)		
Tuesday	Little City (3 rd Tuesday morning)		
Wednesday	U3A Line Dance (2 nd Wednesday afternoon) Tiptree Tipplers (3 rd evening in month); U3A Tai Chi 2.30 pm (3 rd Wednesday); U3A Tai Chi 1.30 pm (4 th Wednesday)		
Thursday	U3A History (1 st afternoon), Tiptree Garden Club (1 st evening), Flower Club (2 nd evening), St Luke's Ladies Group (3 rd evening)		
Friday	Messy Church (1 st Friday afternoon), Priory Heath WI (2 nd Friday afternoon in the month) Games Afternoon (4 th Friday afternoon)		

If you are interested in making contact with any of the groups listed, please contact the Hall Bookings Administrator on hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Find us on Facebook:  / [tiptreechurchhall](https://www.facebook.com/tiptreechurchhall)

May 2026

Genesis for Cats

On the first day of Creation, God created the cat.

On the second day, God created man to serve the cat.

On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as food for the cat.

On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labour for the good of the cat.

On the fifth day, God created expensive furniture so that the cat would have objects whereon to sharpen its claws.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy and the man broke.

On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but the litterbox needed changing.

11th October James the Deacon

James the Deacon is the saint for any lay person who has stepped in to lead their church when the clergy are far away.

In fact, an historian has called James the Deacon ‘the one heroic figure’ in the Roman mission to Northumbria. No wonder – in a time of political chaos, with the king murdered and even the bishop fleeing for safety, James the Deacon stood firm.

It had begun when Pope Gregory the Great sent Paulinus, Bishop of York, to take Roman Christianity to Northumbria. James the Deacon, almost certainly an Italian, was among those who went with Paulinus.

The mission began well, and Edwin the king of Northumbria was converted. Roman Christianity in Northumbria took root and began to grow. But then in 633 Edwin fell in battle with Penda, the ruthless pagan king of Mercia. A pagan backlash began. The queen and her son fled for Kent, with the bishop Paulinus going south with them.

All that was left of Roman Christianity in Northumbria was James, now a solitary deacon.

But James was made of stern stuff, and despite the danger from Penda, James stayed on at a village near Catterick, often risking his life as he cared for the Christians, and continued to preach the gospel.

His success was discovered when the Northumbrian mission returned five to ten years later, and found an active Christian community still in Northumbria. James had been a faithful servant.

After Penda died, and Christian rule was re-established in Northumbria, James turned to teaching music, especially Gregorian Chant, to the fledgling churches in the region. Bede praised him for his honour and integrity. James was present at the Synod of Whitby in 664, which met to discuss the differences between the Celtic Northumbrian Church of the North, and the Roman Church of the South.

When James died sometime after 671, he was deeply mourned by the ordinary Christians of Northumbria, both Celtic and Roman. He had never deserted them.

Parish Pump



**CELEBRATING
ST LUKE'S CHURCH
170TH ANNIVERSARY**



*History Display
&
Coffee Morning*



**Talk by local
historian Elaine
Bamford**



SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER

From 10am

Come and join us for Coffee, bacon rolls and learn about the 170 years of our Church history



ST LUKE'S CHURCH,
Church Road, Tiptree CO5 0SU

Andrew - first disciple of Jesus

Andrew, whose feast day ends the Christian year on 30th November, is probably best known to us as the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

In fact, there are so many legends about him all over Europe and the Middle East that it's safest to stick to what the Gospels tell us - though the strong tradition that he was martyred by crucifixion is probably true and is perpetuated in the 'St Andrew's Cross', the 'saltyre' of Scotland.

The Gospels record that he was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the desert, to be taught by the charismatic prophet known to us as John the Baptist. Many thought that he was the long-promised Messiah, but John insisted that he was not. 'I am the voice crying in the wilderness,' he told the crowds. 'Prepare the way of the Lord! One comes after me who is greater than I am.' So when one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend and described him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So as Jesus made off, they followed him.

All the more strange, then (though, on reflection, very true to human nature) that when Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about his current place of residence: 'where are you staying?' Or, perhaps, they were hinting that what they were seeking could not be dealt with in a brief conversation. If they could come to his lodgings, perhaps their burning questions might be answered.

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. Come and see what I'm like, what I do, the sort of person I am. What an invitation!

The results of their response were in this case life-changing - for themselves, and for many other people. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. The next day Jesus met Philip and called him to 'follow'. Philip then brought Nathaniel. The little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was being formed. They came, they saw, they were conquered! And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

Parish Pump



The beginning of the M25

Tim Lenton

Forty years ago, on 29th October 1986, the M25 motorway around Greater London was opened.

An orbital motorway for London had been proposed in 1944, but by 1966 this idea had evolved into two ringways, to the north and south. By the time the first sections opened in 1975, however, it had been rethought again, and so joining them together to make a full orbital motorway was again the plan.

Just over ten years later, in 1986, the final section was opened by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and the new M25 was the longest ring road in Europe. The Dartford Crossing is technically not a motorway, but few would know the difference.

Environmental considerations became a factor, and almost 40 public inquiries took place, the most controversial area being in Kent over the North Downs. However, none of the public inquiries came out in favour of objectors.

At first the M25 was popular with the public. In the 1987 General Election, the Conservatives won everywhere the motorway passed through. But problems quickly surfaced, the obvious one being chronic congestion.

Part of this was due to apparently unanticipated office and retail development along its route, generating in-and-out slower-moving traffic. Also, it was soon clear that more lanes were needed in many places: in some areas three had become five or six. Some churches even objected because it created a kind of stone wall between those congregations within and those without.

A report in *The Economist* said it "had taken 70 years to plan, 12 to build it and just one to find it was inadequate".

The M25 is now well established and used in practice as an alternative boundary for Greater London, especially by haulage companies. If you ever get stuck in a traffic jam on the M25, it might help to remember that it was designed for a maximum of 88,000 vehicles a day, but instead carries at times up to 300,000 a day.

Parish Pump

New report explores young adult journeys to faith in the Church of England

Young adults are coming to faith in a range of different ways, some very different from previous generations, according to a new report.

New research commissioned by the Church of England uncovers how growing spiritual curiosity among young adults has led to a range of unexpected routes by which they are discovering Christian faith and finding community in Church of England churches.

‘Understanding Young Adult Journeys to Faith in the Church of England’ draws on in-depth interviews with 30 young adults aged 18 to 30 who began attending Church of England churches for the first time within the five years following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Conducted by Theos think tank and recently published, the research explores how Generation Z is engaging with Christianity in new ways amongst a changing cultural context.

The report identifies several recurring themes in their paths to interaction with faith and the Church of England.

Social media often served as an initial point of contact, introducing young adults to Christian ideas through podcasts, testimonies, debates, influencers and online content.

For many, this led to deeper exploration through reading the Bible, engaging with theology and asking wider questions about meaning, purpose and truth, often before attending church for the first time.

Personal relationships were consistently found to play a significant role, with encouragement, invitations or stories from teachers, chaplains, friends, partners, clergy and church members often helping young people move from curiosity to attending church.

Community and a sense of belonging also emerged as a common experience of church, with many participants citing this as one of the reasons they continued attending and became more involved.

Young people interviewed as part of the research were drawn to a wide range of Anglican traditions, including cathedrals, Anglo-Catholic and contemporary evangelical churches.

Across traditions, they reported being engaged by the “authenticity” and “seriousness” of worship, and valuing “confidence, consistency and depth” in the churches they had chosen to attend.

Parish Pump

How can a Christian be a scientist?

written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith. See www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/churches and <http://www.cis.org.uk>

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered what it was like to have a career in science, and how being a Christian might make a difference. Eventually I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, and I learned that science and faith are a great combination. Dr Francis Collins, former Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA, wrote that it is “possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation.” So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges of a life in science?

Although our beliefs may affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they don’t affect the outcome of the experiments themselves. If a Muslim and a Christian drop the same ball from the same height under identical conditions, it will fall at the same speed. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of her worldview.

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. The world has been declared by God to be ‘very good’ (see chapter one and two of Genesis), and exploring it is a way to express our gratitude to Him. Scientific discoveries can also bring a sense of awe and wonder that feeds into our worship.

Some people don’t want to get involved in certain lines of research because of ethical concerns. On the other hand, there are many issues that make Christians want to get stuck into new research that will help care for people and the rest of creation, such as medical research, ecology or developing appropriate technologies.

Organisations such as Christians in Science and the Faraday Institute gather together scientists who are also people of faith, and others who are interested in the subject. They come from a wide range of backgrounds, and express their beliefs in a variety of different ways. What they have in common is the conviction that you don’t have to choose between science and God. As the young people in our churches prepare to return to their studies, online if not in person, let’s encourage them that science (along with many other fields) is a great way to serve God.

Parish Pump

Food Bank Shopping List

Items suitable to be donated:

Long life milk

Breakfast cereal

Fruit juice

Tea

Coffee

Biscuits

Jam

Squash

Tinned vegetables

Soup

Baked beans

Tinned custard

Tinned rice pudding

Tinned fruit

Pasta

Rice

Pasta sauce

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned meat

Tinned fish

Tinned potatoes

Cereal bars

Crisps (6-pack)

Sugar

Treats

Toilet roll

Toiletries

Laundry detergent

Cleaning products

Please make sure that food is in date, preferably with a good shelf life.

Thank you for your kind support

CITY

Churches In Tiptree Youth

community

Youth Group

Now including
Late Lounge
an additional &
later monthly
activity for young
people in or
beyond school
year 10

love

together

growing

serve

Christ

teach students

belong
help
reach
inspire
connect
share
help
inspire
connect
share
help

**An inclusive Christian faith based Youth Club
for young people in school years 7* – 13 (ages
11 – 19) * open to year 6 from Easter**

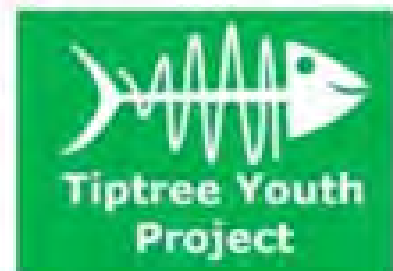
Fridays, Term Time, 7pm – 8:45pm

@ Tiptree URC, Chapel Road

**Fun, games, sports, cooking,
lifeskills, snacks, conversation**

Want to know more?

Contact: andy@tiptreeyp.org



CITY CITY CITY CITY

Churches In Tiptree Youth

Anne-Marie's Visit

Anne-Marie made a flying visit to Tiptree on 3rd August while she was in Essex on another matter. Several people met with Anne-Marie at "Dear Grace" before she started on the long journey back to South Wales. She spoke about life in Wales, how Rupert dislikes the rain, the differences between a Rector's life and an Archdeacons and how Marcus and Alice are getting on.

The following pictures were taken by Anne Buckingham.



The Friends of St Luke's Church Tiptree present an evening of music

Celebrating 170 Years of St Luke's Church



170th Anniversary Concert

SAT 17TH OCTOBER

Tickets £10

St Luke's Church, Tiptree

7.30pm (Doors open at 7pm)

Introducing Vocalise Tiptree (Choir)

Colchester Saxophone Quartet

Caroline Lover & Ian Jewitt (Musicians)

Tickets £10 each. Available from: Don Tyler & Son Opticians, Tiptree.



ST LUKE'S 170th ANNIVERSARY



Come and celebrate this
momentous occasion with us

Friday 16th October

A Concert by KYDS Youth Drama Society
7.30pm in St Luke's Church

KYDS

Cakes

Saturday 17th October

History Display & Coffee Morning
plus

History talk by Elaine Bamford
From 10am

A Concert by Vocalise, Tiptree
7.30pm in St Luke's Church

Bacon
rolls

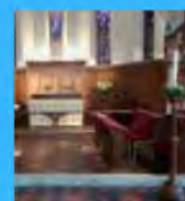
Vocalise

Sunday 18th October

Morning Worship 9.30am with
Archdeacon Ruth Patten
Followed by Tea & Celebratory Cake



We hope to see you there!



The Tale of The Friend at Midnight



JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT A MAN WHO HAD
RUN OUT OF BREAD...



EVEN THOUGH IT WAS
MIDNIGHT...



... HE WENT TO HIS NEIGHBOUR'S
HOUSE AND BANGED ON THE
DOOR - LOUDLY!



PLEASE WILL YOU LEND
ME THREE LOAVES?

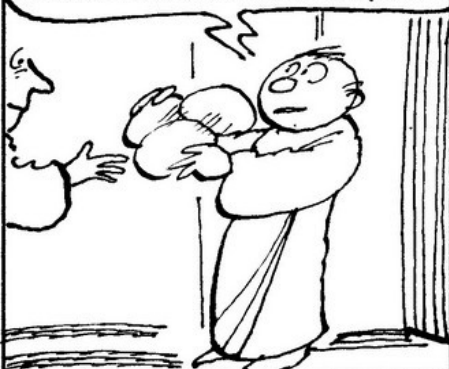


GO AWAY!! WE'RE ALL TRYING TO SLEEP!



OH GO ON... PLEASE I
REALLY DO NEED SOME!

ALRIGHT THEN! BUT I'M
ONLY DOING THIS BECAUSE I
WANT SOME PEACE AND QUIET!



JESUS EXPLAINED - 'THE
NEIGHBOUR AGREED TO SHARE
HIS BREAD BECAUSE THE MAN
KEPT ASKING'



'DON'T BE AFRAID TO TALK
TO GOD. HE LONGS TO HEAR
OUR PRAYERS'.



John Wisden and his famous 'Cricketers' Almanack'

by Tim Lenton

Two hundred years ago, on 5th September 1826, British cricketer John Wisden was born. He was the founder of *Wisden's Cricketers' Almanack*. Launched with 112 pages in 1864, it now runs to 1500 pages and is the bible of cricket.

Wisden was a builder's son, born in Brighton. He moved to London after his father died, and lived with the outstanding Sussex wicketkeeper, Tom Box. Wisden was only 5ft 4in and weighed seven stone when he made his first-class debut for Sussex against MCC in 1845, taking nine wickets. He became known as Little Wonder.

He averaged 225 wickets a season for twelve years, took 455 wickets in 1851, and clean bowled all ten wickets in the second innings for North v South in 1850. He bowled fast, round-arm (before overarm was permitted) and was said to have had an extraordinary off-break. He was also a strong batsman.

Away from the game, Wisden began a cricket equipment business in Leamington Spa in 1850, and five years later opened a "cricket and cigar" shop in central London, initially in partnership with fellow-cricketer Fred Lillywhite. Wisden was also cricket coach at Harrow School and in 1867 bought The Cricketers, a public house at Duncton in Sussex.

In 1859 Wisden – by now bowling slow – was involved in the first tour by an English team to Canada and the United States, where he achieved a double hat-trick, taking six wickets in six balls.

Because of rheumatism, Wisden retired from cricket in 1863 at the early age of 37 and started publishing his annual Cricketers' Almanack the following year. Described now as the most famous sports book in the world, the iconic yellow-bound volume contains comprehensive match records, chapter and verse, prophecy, history and the occasional sermon. It is known simply as Wisden.

Parish Pump

Those new Royal Mail solar-powered digital post-boxes

Royal Mail has converted about 3,500 of the old trusty red post-boxes into digital affairs, out of the 115,000 post-boxes in the country.

The new solar-powered digital post-boxes feature a solar panel roof, a built-in barcode scanner, and an extra-large drawer that accepts parcels up to shoebox size.

The idea is that the solar panels on top capture sunlight to power the digital scanner and automated drawer mechanism. So, then all you have to do is to scan the 2D barcode on your pre-paid parcel label, using the box's scanner to automatically open the large drawer.

The traditional letter slot remains, for regular stamped mail.

As for proof of posting? You use the Royal Mail app on your phone to track and request confirmation when you drop off an item.

If you don't want to download an app or use a printer, the good news is that you can still send your parcels as before, at a post office counter.

Parish Pump

‘He gave us eyes to see them’ – the choir stall

The Revd Michael Burgess considers the significance of the church choir stalls.

‘Let all the world in ev’ry corner sing *My God and King*.’ George Herbert’s poem from ‘The Temple’ tells us that ‘the church with psalms must shout. No door can keep them out.’ It is a reminder of the rich tradition of music in our worship that reaches back to the people of the Old Testament praising the Lord. 2 Chronicles 5 paints a vivid picture of musicians and singers gathered to welcome the Ark of the Lord to Solomon’s Temple.



Michael D Beckwith, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

Because music is such an important part of worship, churches have set aside places for the singers to offer praise and petition. Some of the most wonderful choir stalls in the land can be found in Lancaster Priory, the parish church of St Mary. They are 14 in total, the third oldest choir stalls in England dating back to the 14th century. John Ruskin called them the finest in the country. The canopies are richly decorated with foliage and carved heads, and they enclose tapestries from the 1970s that depict saints and shields. Beneath are the seats: misericords with carvings that have survived the vandalism of the Civil War.

We can imagine the medieval monks gathered in these stalls to sing the offices. Today the stalls are a resplendent, harmonious blend of the old and the new – a work of beauty for the eye, just as the music offered there is a work of beauty for the ear. The word ‘choir’ means a dance to God, and the Priory has a fine choir whose chants and hymns dance from side to side of the chancel and resound in the air. But the music sung there is not just for our enjoyment: its focus is God. Herbert tells us that the songs we create here in our churches on earth have no other destination but the courts of heaven.



QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY
3RD
OCTOBER

Music
round

Picture
rounds

7.30pm • £5pp

Bring own drinks & Nibbles
Raffle

St Luke's Church Hall,
Church Road, Tiptree CO5 0AB

to book email: foslbookings@gmail.com

Parish Pump



Christmas is coming!! with Tiptree Choral Society

Surely not yet!, I hear you say but yes, the Choral Society will be into rehearsing our Christmas programme by the time you read this.

But first, may I thank the many folk who joined us for the **"Prom in the barn"** on 4th July. It was our bi-annual concert with the Essex Concert Band. We finished with the typical "last night of the proms" selection with the audience in fine voice, and the band in full swing!

We all had fun!, so I hope you did too.

Thank you all for supporting us!

So, now we are looking toward to you joining us for our Christmas Concert on **Saturday 4th December in St. Luke's.(at 7.30pm)**

As I write this, I am allowed to tell you that the programme should include :

A ceremony of Carols (Benjamin Britten)

Fantasia on Christmas carols (Ralph Vaughan-William)

audience participation... and much, much more!

So please, reserve the date! Many thanks.



Cutbacks to the school budget had somewhat restricted after-school activities.



Join us here 
at St Luke's Church
Hall (CO5 0SU) after
school **from 3 pm to
5.30 pm on:**

**Friday 4th September - theme: All God's
creatures, the garden of Eden**

**Friday 2nd October – theme: harvest and the
story of Ruth**

**Friday 6th November – theme: remembrance,
Jesus wanted his disciples to remember him**

**Friday 4th December – theme: Advent with focus
on the prophets**

Stories

**A Short
Service**

Crafts



Games

Food

Friends

... and Fun!

More details from thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com

01621 819557  /tiptreestlukes

St Luke's Church, Church Road Tiptree, CO5 0SU



"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'-
attraction ratings guide, it's a Health
and Safety warning!"

Eustace King

& Birkin Funeral Directors



*Independent family funeral directors who pride ourselves on
caring for our local community in their hour of need.*

Tiptree (01621) 819145
87 Church Road, Tiptree, Essex. CO5 0HB

Email: tiptree@ekbirkin.com

Smile

Wedding guest

A little boy at Sunday School learned about the time Jesus went to a wedding and changed the water into wine. "And what did you learn from that story?" asked his father afterward. The boy thought for a moment and answered, "If you're having a wedding, make sure Jesus is there."

Typeface

I'm working on a new typeface to be used for church bulletins. I call it Baptismal Font.

Get rid

A man bought a new fridge for his house. To get rid of his old fridge, he decided to put it outside in his front garden, along with a sign saying: 'Free to good home.' For three days the fridge sat there without even one person looking twice at it.

So eventually the man changed the sign to read: 'Fridge for sale: £30'. The next day someone stole it.

What makes airport security think they can find something in your wife's handbag when even she can't?

Jerusalem

A Sunday School teacher asked her class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. A small child replied: "They couldn't get a babysitter."

Answer?

Politician to aide: "About their charge that I'm indecisive – do you think I should answer it, or let it go, or answer it in part, or what?"

Give it up

Psychiatrists say it's not good for a person to keep too much to himself. HMRC people say the same thing.

Others

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?

Broad

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

The glass

To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the pessimist, the glass is half empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

Friends 
of St Luke's, Tiptree

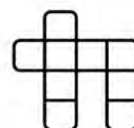


Games Afternoon

4th Friday, Every Month, 2-4pm

£3 per person
Includes Biscuits, Coffee, Tea,
& Good Company!

Rummikub, Cribbage, Scrabble, Mahjong, Cluedo...
and many more Games available



All in the month of October

It was:

800 years ago, on 3rd October 1226 that St Francis of Assisi, Italian friar, deacon and mystic, died. One of the most venerated religious figures in Christianity, and founder of the Franciscan Order.

+++

100 years ago, on 14th October 1926 that the children's book *Winnie-the-Pooh*, by A A Milne, was published.

+++

75 years ago, on 18th October 1951 that Snowdonia National Park was established in Wales. It was Britain's third National Park.

+++

125 years ago, on 19th October 1901 that Edward Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1* and *March No. 2* were performed for the first time, in Liverpool.

+++

40 years ago, on 29th October 1986 that the M25 orbital motorway around Greater London was opened.

+++

75 years ago, on 30th October 1951 that Dartmoor National Park was established in the UK.

+++

75 years ago, on 31st October 1951 that zebra crossings were introduced in Britain. The first one was in Slough, Berkshire.

+++

All in the month of November

It was:

90 years ago, on 2nd November 1936 that the world's first regular TV service was started by the British Broadcasting Corporation, an estimated 100 TV owners tuned in.

+++

115 years ago, on 5th November 1911 that Aviator C.P. Snow completed the first transcontinental flight across America, landing at Pasadena, California. He had taken off from Sheepshead Bay, New York, on September 17th and flew a distance of 3,417 miles.

+++

155 years ago, on 10th November 1871 that Henry Morton Stanley tracks down "missing" Scottish explorer and missionary David Livingstone to the shores of Lake Tanganyika.

+++

110 years ago, on 18th November 1916 that allied General Douglas Haig called off the First Battle of the Somme after five months. The Allies had advanced 125 square miles at a cost of 420,000 British and 195,000 French soldiers. German losses were over 650,000 men.

+++

90 years ago, on 30th November 1936 that one of London's best-loved landmarks, the Crystal Palace burned down. The huge glass building originally housed the Great Exhibition of 1851.

Wordsearch

To St Luke, whose feast-day is 18th October, we owe a beautifully written gospel as well as the Book of Acts. He was a Greek physician and faithful travelling companion to St Paul. Under house arrest near the end of his life Paul noted, 'only Luke is with me'. Luke's gospel focuses on the compassion of Christ, and offers us moving parables, such as the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son. Women figure more prominently in Luke's gospel than in any other: look out for the extended story of the Virgin Birth, and stories of Mary, Elizabeth, and the woman who was a sinner. His gospel also features more poor people, more lepers, more 'sinners', who are all shown to be 'inside' the love of Christ. In Acts, Luke skilfully links sacred and profane history, as subsequent archaeology has shown. He tells of how the early Christians moved away from Jerusalem into the pagan world, and especially on to Rome.



Luke
Feast
Day
Written
Gospel

Acts
Greek
Physician
Travelling
Faithful

Paul
Compassion
Parables
Prodigal
Son

Good
Samaritan
Women
Poor
Lepers

Sinners
Jerusalem
Pagan
Rome
Early
Christians

St Luke's Ladies Group

16 July	Fraud Protection - Tammy Blest (Essex Police)
20 August	Pauline + ?!
17 September	Charity Night
15 October	Tony Friedlander - Kinder Transport "My Long Lost Family"
19 November	Lorraine Ely - Lorraine Sings
17 December	Christmas Meal + Entertainment
21 January 2027	Joanne Larner - Wonders of Norway

Various local charities are supported every year.
Look out for details about outings on the noticeboards.

MEETING IN THE CHURCH EXTENSION
3rd THURSDAY IN THE MONTH
at 7.30pm
ADMISSION £5.00
INCLUDES RAFFLE
& REFRESHMENTS



**ST LUKE'S
LADIES GROUP
TIPTREE**



Keeping the county warm



Fuel Services

Contact BFS for prompt delivery of your domestic heating oil direct from our local Danbury Fuel Services depot.
You'll find no better service, no better value.

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GreenChristian

Colchester Group
invites you to

Exploring Eco Church

Greening your Church

Jo Herbert-James

Head of Engagement,
A Rocha UK



Rt Revd Roger Morris,
Bishop of Colchester

(video presentation)
Chelmsford Diocesan
Environmental Lead

Linda Percival

Chelmsford Diocesan
Eco Church Advocate



Saturday 17th October 2026

Christ Church, Ireton Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3AT.

9.30am Registration

10.00am to 4.00pm programme:

- Theology: climate change
- Eco Church: A Rocha's Bronze, Silver and Gold awards
- Workshops

Please bring your own lunch; drinks provided throughout the day.

Further information: please text to Howard Gardner 07831 101323

Green Christian is a charitable company, reg.no. 328744; charity no. 02445198.

**Suggested
donation: £10**
(payable on arrival)

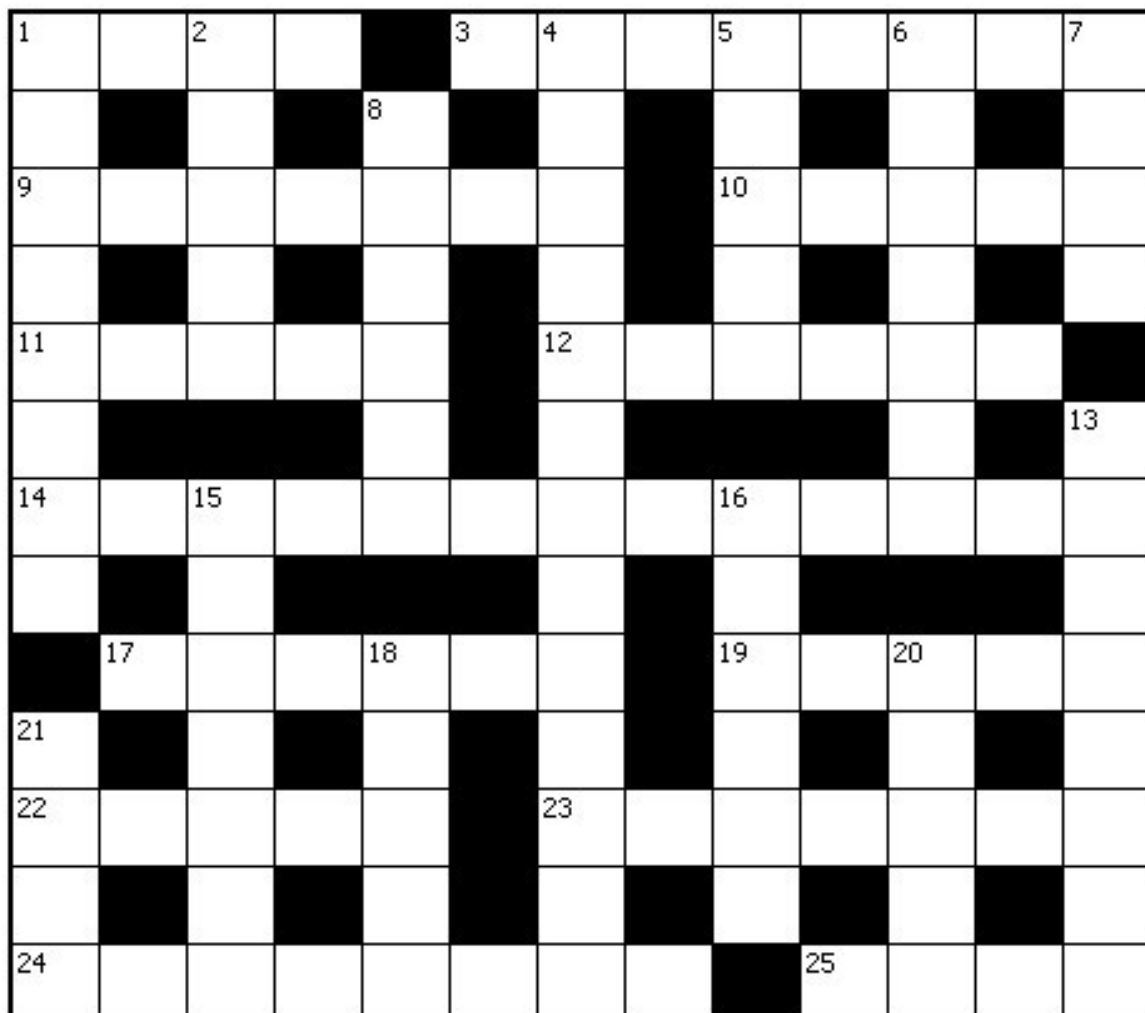


HARVEST FESTIVAL



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

Crossword



Across

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of — , the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
- 5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4–5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 24:44-51, Luke 12:40-46

Jesus warned his disciples to be always ready for his return at the end of time by telling the story of two servants

The good servant



My master could be away a long time; I will work as if he was here.



When the servants came for their food, he had it ready



He made sure everyone got their full amount every day



Then his master came back



I am putting you in charge of everything I have



The bad servant



My master could be away a long time; I can do what I want!



When the servants came for their food, he chased them away!



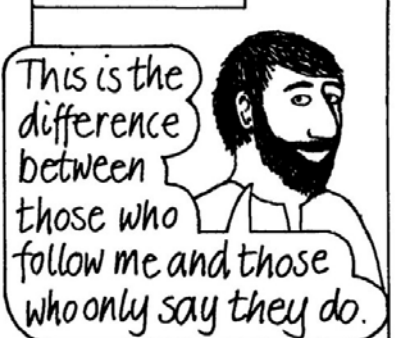
He had friends come round, and they ate and drank as much as they liked.



Then his master came back



Jesus said



On how long a sermon should last

The Rectory
St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

I am afraid we will never agree about the appropriate length of sermons. Your 50-minute exposition on the theology of St Paul concerning women wearing hats in church is, I am sure, of real interest to you. But as your sermon slowly unfolds, I suspect it will prompt quite a different concern among your congregation. Have they set the oven timer to come on too early?

Whenever I even hint that a matter of theological importance may be about to appear in one of my sermons, an expression of benign incomprehension comes over my congregation. You know the look – you see it on golden Labradors whenever they try and work out what their owners are telling them.

There are certain sure signs that should warn you when you have preached for long enough. One is when members of the congregation reach for their prayer books to try to work out for the umpteenth time how the date for Easter is calculated. The organist turning on the blower when you say “and finally” is another.

Most members of the congregation will count the number of dead flies on the windowsills during your sermon. But when you can see members of the congregation counting the numbers in the congregation counting the numbers of dead flies, that is absolute proof that it is time to stop.

There has only been one occasion when I preached for longer than my standard eight minutes. Our former organist was in the habit of taking his dog for a walk during the sermon. I knew I had to carry on preaching until I heard the latch on the vestry door for the second time. That meant he was back, and ready to play the last hymn. Unfortunately, one Sunday, his dog ran away.

While he searched for it over every field in the parish, I spent the intervening two hours reading the greater part of Leviticus, discussing the food laws set forth in Deuteronomy, and arguing for a Deutero-Isaiah. I was headed for the Babylonian exile when we all heard the vestry door re-open.

After the Service, the congregation left looking as though they had just been rescued from a major shipwreck. And at the next church council meeting, we unanimously voted to buy our organist a stronger lead.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



Tiptree Guild of Beer and Wine Makers

Tiptree Tipplers



Meeting every 3rd Wednesday
St Luke's Hall, at 7.30pm for 8.00pm

- A fun night out in a friendly atmosphere
- Themed nights – see list
- Why not come along & give us a try - no commitment
- New members always welcomed
- Yearly membership only £35 with no entrance fee

Upon arrival ask for Bill, Sonia or Neil who will welcome you
and introduce you to our club and members.

Our events for 2026 are –

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| • Jan 17 – Wine Roulette | • July 21 – Trip to Mersea vineyard |
| • Feb 18 – Valentine's quizzes | • August 19 – Vic's Cup |
| • Mar 18 – Bread & Jam competitions + quiz | • Sept 16 – Beer & Chutney Comp |
| • Apr 15 – First Aid | • Oct 21 – AGM + Hot Dogs |
| • May 20 – Financial talk and Fish n Chips | • Nov 18 – Mexican theme night |
| • June 17 – Wine Competition + quiz | • Dec 16 – Christmas party |



Solutions:

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

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



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