

The Link



March 2023



Shanklin United Reformed Church www.shanklinurc.co.uk

View From Number 10



Talking Jesus – let's do it!

As I thought about what to write for the Link, I read these words in my morning devotions and they jumped off the page:

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

I found myself caught up in prayer for us as a fellowship just as Paul was for his friends in this young church in Greece. We all need **eternal encouragement and good hope**, and God in his love and grace has poured these out in abundance to strengthen us to serve.

Some of us recently enjoyed a cracking evening in Newport with some 200 local Christians as we came together to worship as one church and to be encouraged and inspired by Rachel Jordan-Wolf from Hope Together - her talk is available on YouTube and the link is being circulated.

She shared some helpful fresh statistics from the 2022 **Talking Jesus** research and pointed out to us that people in the UK are still interested in finding out about faith. More people than we might think are open for a conversation and interested to find out more about Jesus. Christians are generally well thought of in the community - but the church is often seen in a less positive light.



We tend to only hear sad stories of decline but there are in fact many reasons to be encouraged and this should stimulate us to be more confident in the Gospel.

The Hope team are encouraging another year of focussed united mission from September this year with a particular focus on Easter 2024 when some great

new resources will be available to celebrate the incredible good news of Jesus' resurrection.

The focus in those verses on “**every good deed and word**” reminds me of how HOPE08 encouraged the church to share God's love in both word and action. We must walk the talk – while remembering that social action alone won't bring anyone to salvation. Faith comes by hearing!

So, let's get talking Jesus in 2023, and not just with our lips – may our lives speak of His love and the eternal message of hope He offers in what are currently troubled and bewildering days. The ground for the seed of the Gospel has been broken up by the many challenges that have shaken society over the last three years. This is now a season of opportunity where people are looking for answers and need hope.

We believe that hope has a name - and His name is Jesus. Let's be willing to talk about Him more and let our friends and neighbours know what a difference He has made to our lives. As the spring buds cheer us, let's be praying for new doors of opportunity to open too.

With very best wishes,



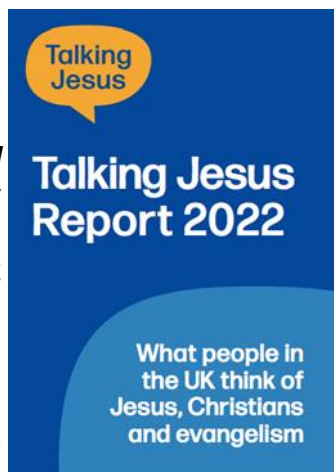
See details of a special outreach event on the Island in April on [page 8](#)



Join the united
year of mission



www.hope2324.com



Prayer



Tuesday Prayer at 19:30 - This is still being held via Zoom using the same account as for other activities and groups :

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

Meeting ID: 324 266 5584 Password: 936536.

Prayer Chain - please make use of this for urgent and important issues that need prayer. Phone Hazel on 865181 – or Jean on 863850 - do consider joining this if you are mostly around at home.

Text Prayer Network – this has supplemented our telephone chain and gets prayer needs around quickly . Please text Lou on **07474 273119** with your prayer request and she will mobilise a team of intercessors. Again, this is for urgent and important issues that need immediate cover:

Prayer for Israel – is held each Monday from 10:00-11:00 on the church Zoom. Please contact Roy & Melodie if you are interested in joining: melodieroywilson@gmail.com or ☎ 866912

Bookshop News

Our little Christian Bookshop is now open again each week from 10:00 – 13:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays – and sometimes for a shorter slot on a Friday.

Please do drop in to encourage the team – and if you'd like to get involved, please contact John and Joan on 862220.



Our Next Church Meeting...

Annual Church Meeting

Thursday 23rd March at 19:30

Teas and Coffees will be served from 19:00

All members and regular worshippers are encouraged to come along as we reflect on the last year and seek to plan ahead. This will include the election of Elders with just one vacancy this year. We really want as many as possible to be involved in our church family business so please do try and get along.

Books of Reports, the Annual Accounts and Agenda will be available ahead of the meeting so we can all come prepared.

As usual, a special Zoom link will be available for those who cannot make it in person. Please ask Robin for details – and how you might cast a vote in the Elder's election.



Church Spring Clean...

Saturday 4th March – 10:00 - 12:30

It's been a while since we have done this, so it is long overdue...!!

Please come along with buckets, cloths, polish and dusters to help spruce the whole place up for the year ahead. Though regular cleaning takes place, this does not cover all the corners and surfaces.



The more the merrier as we enjoy fellowship working together to look after our house of prayer, worship and service.

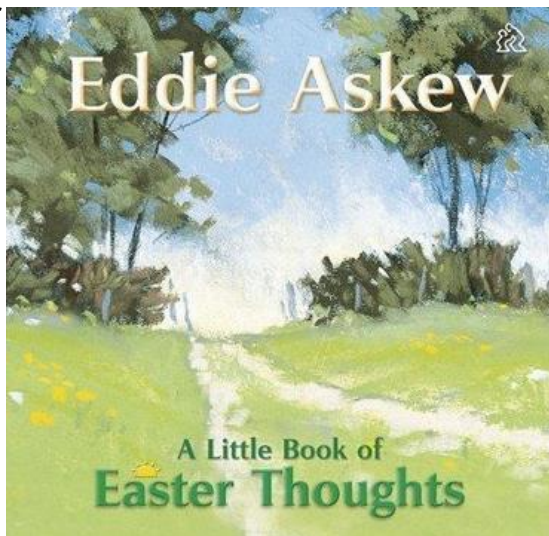
This will end with a soup and bread snack lunch at 12:30 – please sign up on the sheet so we have a rough idea of numbers.

Thanks to Julie for offering to prepare lunch.

Bookshop News

Easter cards are now in stock in the bookshop. A variety of designs are available and each card includes a Bible verse. The cards are produced by 'The Leprosy Mission' and sales of the cards supports the work of 'The Leprosy Mission' in their aim to eradicate leprosy and help those suffering from the effects of leprosy.

'A Little Book of Easter Thoughts' by Eddie Askew is also available. This little hardback book contains a selection of thoughts, prayers and meditations on the theme of Easter, taken from some of Eddie Askew's other books. The book covers Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday and is illustrated with Eddie Askew's own paintings. (£6.99) Eddie Askew worked for 'The Leprosy Mission' as a Hospital Superintendent in



India and later worked as the Mission's International Director. He wrote several books, all illustrated with his own artwork, and sales of his books have raised millions of pounds for the work of 'The Leprosy Mission'.

'Who moved the stone?' by Frank Morison was first published in 1930 but is still highly regarded. In the preface the author explains how the book in its present form came about. Although he set out to write a book examining the last seven days of the life of Jesus on earth he tells of how he began with a feeling that Jesus' history rested on very insecure foundations. However, his study of information sources and evidence led him to change his original plan as his viewpoint had changed. He found he could no longer write the book he had originally planned and instead he tells the story of the change in his perspective and the reasons for it. The bookshop has one 'previously owned' copy of this book priced at £3.50.

Silver Wedding Surprise!

Local singing duo Allan and Sue Tappenden got married here on Valentine's Day in 1998 and thought it would be fun to put their wedding gear back on and take some photos on their 25th Anniversary – including on the steps of the church.

They turned up just as Bible Bite was finishing and were amazed to find Brian there. They got a cheer from everyone – and there was a precious catch

up over a coffee after so many years, which proved an emotional time for them.

Such fun!

Allan was often dubbed *Little Noddy Holder*



Connection Quiz

1. What's the wafer-style item that's served with ice cream (so you don't need a bowl or spoon)?
2. Which male singing voice term originates from Greek and means 'heavy sounding'?
3. What musical instrument did the astronaut Neil Armstrong play?
4. What was the song spoken and sung by Danny Kaye, released in 1946, that was made into an animated cartoon in 1975?
5. So, what is the **connection** between the answers to questions 1 - 4?
6. And bonus question... I wonder where the cover photo was taken?



Answers are on [page 43](#)

Good News for the Wight

**The life-transforming
message about Jesus**

Saturday 22nd April 19:30

at True Vine Church, Newport

Guest speaker:

Phil Knox

*Head of Mission to young adults at
the Evangelical Alliance*

With local musicians and team
members from...



Who could you invite and bring along?

Phil will also be speaking at Shanklin URC on Sunday 23rd April

Good News for All!

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

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



This should be available at the back of church - and is such a great resource for people to read and then pass on to others!!

This month's edition (also available to read online at www.goodnews-paper.org.uk/viewlatesteditionspage.htm) has several great articles, including the headline article 'New Battle For SAS Hero' how a former atheist soldier encountered God in Iraq.

Other contributions include:

- ♦ **Incurable Cancer Healed** - Mum's miracle sparks daughter's journey to faith
- ♦ **Wakanda Forever Star's Gratitude** - Golden Globe winner thanks God
- ♦ **Defender Of The Faith** - West Ham's Ben Johnson not afraid to talk about Jesus
- ♦ **Bob Dylan Hasn't Lost It** - Iconic singer tells press he still 'believes it all'
- ♦ **The Greatest** - Pele wasn't perfect but he believed in a forgiving God
- ♦ **From Addict To Athlete** - Former homeless addict finds life to the full

Good News... for a change

Acts: Paul in Jerusalem and Caesarea

Paul is coming to the end of his third missionary journey ~ at the end of Chapter 20, we saw him leaving the Ephesian elders and in Chapter 21 Luke gives us a detailed description of the journey to Jerusalem, including Paul being beseeched not to go there! *"When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, 'Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.'"* (Acts 21:12&13)

Paul has been led by the Spirit to return to Jerusalem, even though he would face much opposition ~ just as Jesus had. In these next three chapters, we begin to see what this might mean for him...

Acts 21: 1-16 On to Jerusalem

Paul's party travels through Kos, Rhodes, and Patara and land at Tyre, where the disciples urge Paul not to go to Jerusalem. It seems from the text that they have been led by the Spirit ~ perhaps this is a "test" for Paul or perhaps they have interpreted the Spirit's message to suit themselves! At Ptolemais, the disciples who greet them are now called *"brothers and sisters"*. After a day, the party moves on to Caesarea. Here they stay at Philip's house ~ it is 20 years since we encountered him and he now has 4 unmarried daughters. We also encounter Agabus, who prophesied at the end of chapter 11. Here, he prophesies what will happen to Paul in Jerusalem and Paul's followers in turn plead with him not to go (see quote above). But *"when he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, 'The Lord's will be done.'"* (Acts 21:14)

**Sometimes It Is Hard To Persevere In Difficult Circumstances
Paul Was Prepared To Suffer For The Name Of The Lord Jesus
His Will Is What Matters We Must Ask For Strength To Do It**

As Paul confirmed in his letter *"We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that*

we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.” (2 Corinthians 1:8&9)

From Caesarea, they trek the final 65 miles to Jerusalem and reach the end of this journey. What can we take from this?

Prophecy may not always be comfortable ~ it may be telling us something we don't want to hear. When we sense the Spirit's leading:

We Must Move Forward With Both Prayer And Care!

Our Lord gives us ears to hear Him and the courage to carry out His will; remember that,

With Christ In Us We Have The Hope Of Glory

Acts 21: 17-26 Paul's arrival in Jerusalem

Paul has been through riots (Antioch); a stoning (Lystra); beatings (Philippi); more riots (Thessalonica); he has been chased out of Berea and faced court cases and violence in Corinth, before finally coming through more riots in Ephesus. As he enters Jerusalem, he knows that things will not get easier...

Welcomed by the church in Jerusalem, Paul reports back on his latest journey to James and the elders. The assembly welcomes the news however it seems that some have been misinformed about Paul's ministry. There seems to also be confusion here which perhaps stemmed from the fact that these Jewish converts were still steeped in the law.

“They have been informed that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to turn away from Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or live according to our customs” (Acts 21:21)

When Rumours & Gossip Abound The Truth Can Be Difficult To Find

The leadership suggest a way out of the dilemma, and Paul agrees to take a Nazarite vow (a Jewish tradition, see Numbers chapter 6). This, they hoped, would satisfy these converts that Paul remained

on their side! However, opposition continues...

Acts 21: 27-36 Paul arrested

Before the 7 days of the vow are complete we find trouble has followed Paul from Ephesus. These Jews from Asia accuse him of bringing Gentiles into the temple's central court and the whole of Jerusalem became aroused. Paul is dragged from the temple and they try to kill him. This "disturbance of the peace" quickly comes to the attention of the Roman commander who intervenes and the mob backs off. Paul is arrested but the commander finds no credible explanation from the crowd, they just shout, "*get rid of him*".

Conflict within the Church arises today and we sometimes need to humbly accept the views of others and see where they take us

In Times of Stress We Must Seek Wisdom From Our Lord

At times we will all get it wrong as perhaps Paul's compromise did here ~ importantly he did what he thought was right.

Acts 21:37 ~ Acts 22:21 Paul speaks to the crowd

It seems almost unbelievable that Paul, having been rescued from the murderous crowd decided to speak to them. But, as Peter tells us, "*Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.*" (1 Peter 3:15)

Are We Ready, Willing And Able To Do So?

It is perhaps odd that the commander permits Paul to speak, but as we have seen throughout the Book of Acts, God's Will will be done. He speaks in Aramaic (the common tongue of the people) and the raucous crowd become quiet and listen to him. He speaks of how he was zealous for God, to the point of persecuting the followers of the Way and then he speaks of his conversion on the road to Damascus (*this is the second telling of the story and gives us a little more detail ~ we will get a third telling in chapter 26*). Here Paul tells his audience (and us) that after his conversion he was both warned and commissioned by Jesus, "*Quick!*" *he said. 'Leave Jerusalem*

immediately, because the people here will not accept your testimony about me.”... “Then the Lord said to me, Go, I will send you far away to the Gentiles.” (Acts 22: 17&21)

Acts 22: 22-29 Paul a Roman Citizen

Mention of the Gentiles incites the crowd again and they shout, *“Rid the earth of him! He’s not fit to live!” (v 22)*. They cannot comprehend that God cares about other nations and are not prepared for their law to be compromised in any way.

The Roman commander seems surprised at this reaction and orders that Paul be flogged and interrogated to find out why the crowd was so hostile (perhaps he did not speak much Aramaic nor fully understood the Jewish law). It is at this point that Paul reveals that he is a Roman citizen. The commander is alarmed that he has put a Roman citizen in chains! But he still wishes to find out what is going on...

Acts 22:30 ~ Acts 23:11 Paul before the Sanhedrin

At the end of this section we see the Lord speaking to Paul, *“the Lord stood near Paul and said, ‘Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.’” (v 11)*. The Lord has been alongside Paul since his conversion on the road to Damascus and has spoken both words of comfort and direction. This is true for us today:

God Prompts Us When We Need Guidance About Which Path To Take

Prophecy Can Be An Invitation As Well As A Prediction

As in Acts 21:14, may the Lord’s will be done!

The Roman commander assembled the chief priests and the Sanhedrin, and brought Paul before them, trying to get to the bottom of what was going on. The chief priest himself, Ananias, quickly descends to violence* and Paul, realising that he will not get a fair hearing, raises a matter of dispute among them, the resurrection of

the dead. (*The Sadducees believed there was no resurrection whilst the Pharisees did*). The violence increases and the commander has Paul taken away.

*(*It is interesting to note that the Jewish historian Josephus recorded that this Ananias was quick-tempered and even took the tithe that belonged to the priests by violence.)*

Acts 23: 12-22 The plot to kill Paul

Next, we hear of a conspiracy by 40 Jews (hot-headed men behaving badly). An ambush is set by agreement with the authorities but... we now hear of Paul's nephew who lives in Jerusalem with his mother (Paul's sister). He discovers the plot and informs the Roman commander. Clearly, the commander wishes to see justice done and realises it can't happen in Jerusalem ~ remember that our Lord has told Paul that he must testify in Rome!

God Is On The Case

As we read in Isaiah, *“no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the LORD.*” (Isaiah 54:17)

Jesus Promises To Be With Us Too ~ To The End Of The Age!

Acts 23: 23-35 Paul transferred to Caesarea

Paul's "journey" is becoming increasingly bumpy. When peace is threatened the Roman commander acts decisively and sends Paul to Governor Felix in Caesarea, guarded by 470 men ~ this is likely around half of his military contingent!

Many dignitaries chose to live in Caesarea ~ a port city with a more favourable climate, away from the turmoil of Jerusalem. Not wanting to be held responsible for the outcome, the commander passes the buck on, absolving himself in a letter he sends to Felix. (*from this we learn of his name, Claudius Lysias*)

Acts 24: 1-27 Paul's trial before Felix

Paul is kept under guard for 5 days in Herod's palace until his accusers arrived from Jerusalem. Before Felix, they are represented by a lawyer named Tertullus, who proceeds to flatter the governor and then repeats the false charges against Paul, who makes a robust defence. He boldly points out:

- He went to the temple to worship, not to stir up trouble (easily verifiable)
- He worships God and is a follower of the Way (known to Felix)
- He has the same hope in the resurrection as these men who are accusing him
- His conscience is clear before God (**see 1 Corinthians 10:31-33 below)
- His real accusers (men from Asia) are not present!

"Then Felix, who was well acquainted with the Way, adjourned the proceedings... Several days later Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish. He sent for Paul and listened to him as he spoke about faith in Christ Jesus." (Acts 24: 22&24)

Once again we see that the authorities are afraid to commit, one way or the other and the chapter ends in frustration for Paul, who remains in limbo for another 2 years!

Today, we may be tempted to ask, *"Where is God in the gaps?"* but we must remember that:

**Our Character Is Often Developed Through Waiting
God Is Faithful And We Must Learn To Trust In His Unchanging
Grace
We Are To Follow The Way Of Jesus, Our Hope Is Built On Him
Alone**

****"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks or the church of God – even as I try to please everyone in every way. For I am not seeking my own good but the good of many, so that they may be saved." (1 Corinthians 10: 31-33)*

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Robin (thanks Brian)

Prayer Ministry Team

Every Christian is able to pray for others, but it is helpful to have a team authorised to do this in public ministry, accountable to the leadership of the church.

During Covid, as most of you are aware, many of our usual activities at Church were stopped. Over the past year or so we have gradually restarted most of them. It is now felt that it is the right time to restart Prayer Ministry at the end of the morning service.

Many of you will remember that Jean Cunningham used to coordinate it, she now feels it is time to step down but will stay on as a member of the team. I feel God has placed this ministry on my heart so I will be coordinating it with Jean as my back up. Those of you who know me will know that I find it hard to be 'up front' but clearly feel that this is God's will.

The prayer ministry takes place at the end of the service on Sundays, there are up to 4 members of the team available each week (2 men and 2 women) to pray in couples for anyone coming forward for prayer. Usually, team members will be 'on duty' no more than once a month.

I have been in touch with those who were on the team and many wish to continue and a few new folks have expressed an interest in joining.

However, we could do with a few more team members so if you are interested, please let me know. There will be a meeting with Brian before we restart to go through everything and answer any questions.

Sue Wightman.

Warm Space

You are welcome to

The Well

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

Wednesdays 11:00 – 13:00

Free refreshments and craft activities

Just drop in at any point



Christians Working Together in The Bay

Shared Afternoon Worship each Sunday now moves back to 18:30 hosted by various churches.

The venues for March are as follows:

5th St Blasius Church, Church Road, Shanklin

12th URC Shanklin

19th Prayer Gathering at Christ Church, Broadway, Sandown

26th Lake Methodist Church, Sandown Road



**Are you free on Fridays from 11:45
for about half an hour?
Could you help to put the toys away
after CatURpillars?**

You don't need a DBS check because you don't have direct contact with the children ~ in fact you don't even have to like children!

If you think you could help or would like to know any more details, please give Janet a ring on (01983) 862485

Thanks



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Part 1 - Thurs 16 March 2023

Part 2 - Thurs 23 March 2023

Part 3 - Thurs 30 March 2023

Virtual sessions on Zoom

16:00 - 17:30

A full day's training for all individuals working with children, young people and adults at risk. Also important for Ministers and Elders of the Church. The course covers:

- **Policy and Programme**
- **Premises** (risk assessments, security, accidents and first aid, fire safety, Transport)
- **People** (recruitment, working together culture, communication online & phones)
- **Protecting Children and Adults at Risk** (forms of abuse, recognising signs of abuse, responding to concern or disclosures, reporting structures)
- **Paper Trails** (forms, records, registers,)
- **Safer Church Culture**

Certificates are presented to those completing this training course.

Trainers - Phil Ray and Ruth White, Children's & Youth Development Officers

**For more information and to book your place please contact:
bookings@urcwessex.org.uk / 023 8067 4513**

Thy Kingdom Come ... Pentecost 3rd June 2022 ... (Day 9)

We are continuing to look at Peter's first letter during the devotionals associated with Thy Kingdom Come (2022) ~ a global initiative that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus.



These reflections were delivered through a voice recording, try to imagine as you read them that you are listening and responding...

The overall purpose is to ask God to empower us to become effective witnesses for Jesus each day.

P, pausing to be still ...

R, rejoicing with a Psalm and reflecting on the early church ...

A, asking God to help us and others ...

Y, yielding to His will in our lives, come what may...

Life To The Dead (Izwe Nkosi)

As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly, to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.

Creator God, who formed humanity from dust, breathe in me again. Revive me and sanctify me by the power of Your Spirit. Set my heart on fire with the good news of Your Gospel.

I choose to rejoice in God's presence today, joining with the ancient praises of all God's people in the words of Psalm 100:

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

***Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.***

*For the LORD is good and his love endures for ever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.”
(Psalm 100)*

Today I am continuing to explore Peter’s words to the Early Church, and the significance that they have for the way that I live today...

*“For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.”
(1 Peter 4:6-8)*

Archbishop Justin Welby comments on the passage as follows:

“The generosity of God overflows with such power that even death is swept away. Whilst we do not fully understand the mechanisms of salvation, we are encountered by the one who gives life to the dead.

*Where people turn away, God welcomes. Where we are tempted to judge, God calls us to love. When flesh inevitably dies, spirit lives. It is a call to live according to God’s standards, rather than wither according to our own.”**

What does the Gospel mean to me? Am I living in the reality of the beautiful truth that God has saved me from death, or are the challenges and worries of the world distracting me from that truth at present?

I think of someone who, because of negative experiences of Christians or Christianity, feels they are not welcomed by the Church or maybe even by God.

Holy Spirit, I ask You to show them Your unfailing love. Give me one thing I could do for them today that would demonstrate Your welcome.

As I return to the passage, I open my ears to hear Your word, and my heart to yield to Your will once again.

“For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human

standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:6-8)

These words of Peter encourage me that life as a Christian should reflect the Gospel I believe. I am called by God to love others deeply, even and especially when I feel like they don't deserve it.

Jesus, I receive Your promise of life and forgiveness afresh today. Help me to live in a way that glorifies You, and displays Your gospel to those around me.

And now, as I prepare to take this time of prayer into the coming day, the Lord who loves me says in 2 Corinthians:

“So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!”

**Father,
help me to live this day to the full,
being true to You in every way.**

**Jesus,
help me to give myself away to others,
being kind to everyone I meet.**

**Spirit,
help me to love the lost,
proclaiming Christ in all I do and say.**

Amen.

**The extract from the thoughts of the Most Reverend Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, is from the Thy Kingdom Come Novena 2022 (page 20), which can be downloaded and read in full at:*

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/new-2022>

These Thy Kingdom Come devotionals were included in a much wider prayer initiative ~ 24/7 Prayer (Peter Grieg) ~ which provides Bible reflection and prayer twice daily (morning and evening). You

can access these through an app, Lectio 365 ~ for more details go to:

www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional

Robin

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A United Reformed Church minister has been named one of 100 ‘Changemakers’ who have made a positive difference in Wales.

The Rev Gethin Rhys, Policy Officer for Churches Together in Wales, features on the Future Generations Changemaker 100 list.



Speaking about being placed on the list, Gethin said, “I am not a great one for honours, to be honest, but I am really pleased that the Future Generations Commissioner has acknowledged the importance of a faith perspective in the public debate. A deep concern for the wellbeing of future generations and of the planet on which they, like us, will depend is surely at the heart of Christian faith, and so I have always supported this Act and the work of the Commissioner.”

The Commissioner’s citation read: “Gethin has championed the need to ensure that the wellbeing of Future Generations Act is central to many social and political aspects of policy. He has often advised my team on how public bodies and others can consider faith and religion, including the relationship between these and other policy areas such as climate change and education.”

From:

urc.org.uk/urc-minister-named-one-of-100-changemakers-in-wales/

EMBRACING AGE

Later life in all its fullness



Hope in Ageing

Poetry Competition

In a society obsessed by youth it can be hard to view the onset of grey hairs and wrinkles with hope, but the Bible says that grey is a crown of splendour.

Embracing Age, a Christian charity working towards a world where older people are valued, connected & full of hope, believe there is hope, joy and fulfilment in ageing: that life in all its fullness extends into our later years.

Send us your poems on the theme of hope in ageing. Shortlisted poems will be published in anthology and winning poems will be read by Pam Rhodes on her Premier Radio show.

Open to anyone over 50 years old
Closing date 30th April
See overleaf for more information

hope in ageing



General Rules

1. The competition opens on 1st February 2023 to anyone aged 50 or over living in the United Kingdom.
2. The closing date of the competition is midnight on 30th April 2023. Entries received after this time will not be considered.
3. There is no limit on the number of entries a single entrant can make.
4. Entries will not be returned, so please keep a copy.
5. Under no circumstances can alterations be made to poems once entered.

Poem Guidelines

1. All poems must have a title and must not exceed 40 lines in length (excluding title). Entries should be on the subject of Hope in Ageing
2. Poems must be in English. Poems must be the entrant's original work.
3. Entries must not have been published, self-published, published on a website or made public on social media, broadcast or featured among the winners in another competition before 30th April 2023.

How to Enter

1. Poems should be emailed to poetry@embracingage.org.uk or posted to: Poetry Competition, Embracing Age, ETNA Community Centre, 13 Rosslyn Road, Twickenham, TW1 2AR.
2. Please include your name, age and contact details.
3. Each poem must be sent as a separate document attached to your email with the poem title as the document name. Posted entries can be handwritten or typed.
4. Entries need to have arrived by the closing date. Telephone or email confirmation of receipt is not available.
5. The judges read all the entries; their decision is final. Neither the judges nor staff will enter into any correspondence.

Winners

1. Winners and shortlisted poets will be notified by the end of June 2023 and the winners will be announced on the Embracing Age website. All winners will be asked to provide a biography and photograph which will be used in publicity.
2. The copyright of each poem remains with the author. However, authors of the winning and shortlisted poems, by entering the competition, grant Embracing Age the right in perpetuity to publish and/or broadcast their poem. Use of the shortlisted and winning poems elsewhere for one year from 2023 is subject to permission from Embracing Age.
3. All shortlisted poems will be published in an anthology which will be available to purchase.

Please Help Christians Like Pastor Ivan and Viktoria Who Are Suffering From Oppression



Dear Friends,

The Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has brought immense suffering to the Ukrainian nation. So many reports have reached us all of the terrible cost of this cruel war. But what you might not be fully aware of is the fact that this conflict has led to the persecution and oppression of evangelical believers in Ukraine by the Russian forces and those supportive of the invasion.

During this last year in the occupied areas of Ukraine, evangelical Christians have been arrested, interrogated, tortured and even expelled from their towns. Church buildings have been confiscated. Christians have received harsher treatment at Russian military checkpoints. Will you please make a gift today to Release International's mission partners in Ukraine and other restricted and hostile places, to help oppressed and persecuted Christians?

Before the war Pastor Ivan led a growing congregation of over 200 people in a town* in the Kharkiv region of Ukraine. Last spring when the Russians got close to the town lots of people fled. Only some elderly people remain. Pastor Ivan and wife Viktoria* stayed behind too. But the Russian forces responded with brutality and violence. One day they came to Pastor Ivan's house and arrested him. They*

threw him into prison and tortured him, accusing him of being an American spy.

This is what Pastor Ivan recalls from what happened to him in May 2022: 'I felt so ill after their interrogation that I thought I was dying. Other prisoners tried to help me and called for help. The Russians sent me to a hospital, which I believe was divine grace and intervention. I believe God saved my life through the Ukrainian doctors who helped me.'

Thanks to the generosity and kindness of supporters like you they received pastoral care and medical help in Kharkiv region from one of Release International's mission partners.

Will you join with pastors like Ivan in Ukraine and elsewhere who are helping oppressed Christians by giving £10 to Release International today?

We deeply appreciate your prayers, love and support, whatever amount you can give. Your generous help could lighten the burden of our oppressed brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine, India, Malaysia, China, Central Asia and elsewhere.

Thank you so much for caring.

** Names have been changed, photographs are from a library, and we are unable to disclose the name of the town in Kharkiv region, for security reasons.*

To donate online, please go to <https://releaseinternational.org/release-campaigns/appeal-for-christians-living-under-oppression-ivan/>

Please ask if you'd like help in giving a gift or to know more about persecuted believers around the world. Do also look out for the March/April editions of the Open Doors magazine and Prayer Diary at Church.

Blessings in Jesus' Name

Jane H.

Source: Release International

Could you Aspire to make a Squirrel?

Last year, at the time of the Queen's Jubilee, several hundred pounds was raised for Aspire Ryde by selling hand knitted corgis. The Croydons sold forty whilst travelling on the Queen Mary 2 between Southampton and New York to visit Julie's 80 year old sister, Maureen, who has dementia. Their other sister and brother are both disabled, so none of them are able to travel. Maureen expects Julie and Bill to visit every year. Julie has a health condition which requires her to sleep in the middle of the day. Sailing is the perfect

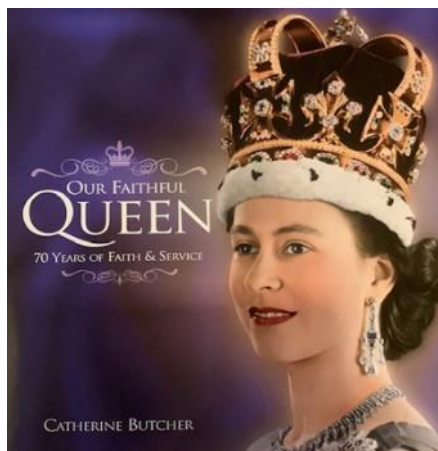


solution - even avoiding jet lag. However, as they do not enjoy gambling, dancing, posh dining, celebrity shows etc, the weeklong journey would be very boring without a productive project.



Sitting in one of the public lounges, Julie knitted whilst Bill filled the

bodies with stuffing. One or two completed corgis were always placed on the coffee table. Whenever people came up to admire them, they were told about Aspire and that the corgis were for sale. In Ryde the price was £2.50. Anyone who goes on a cruise must have lots of money, so £5 was charged. The very first person who expressed interest then asked for 8! After purchasers put their money in the donation box, they were presented with a copy of 'Our Faithful Queen'. People were delighted and could be seen reading the books. A Christian couple, who continued chatting, also gave a cheque for \$200 towards the work of Open the Book. It was definitely a productive trip.



This year, the same journey will be made in September. It would be lovely to produce red squirrels and supply the Hope Together book now being produced for the Coronation. It proclaims that Jesus is The King of kings. From last year's experience, at least 20 squirrels will need to have been completed before the trip starts. If you would like to help, feel free to do so using any technique, such as crochet, knitting, sewing or felting. There is a copyrighted pattern available for £3, suitable for advanced knitters.

Julie



The Miracle Man

Saturday 1st April

15:30 - 17:30

Free fun for all the family

- no unaccompanied children please

Come and explore Easter through a Messy Church experience at Shanklin URC - a fun way of learning for all ages in a hands-on way.

There will be several craft activities to choose from followed by a short celebration with songs, prayers – and some delicious food.

Come as a family; bring the grandchildren along – any combination is fine! Enjoy it together.

For more information, please speak to Yvonne Sparks or Brian and Janet Harley



We Are Family

In the first chapter of his letter to the Ephesians Paul writes,
“In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will...” (v11)

**Each and every one of us has been chosen to be members of God’s family. As family we are called to be disciples of Christ
~ here is how Neil Anderson puts it:**

The Definition Of Discipleship

**Encourage one another, and build up one another,
just as you also are doing (1 Thessalonians 5:11)**

Jesus' primary call to His disciples is seen in His words, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28) and "'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.'" (Matthew 4:19).

Mark records: "He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him, and that He might send them out to preach, and to have authority to cast out the demons" (Mark 3:14 - 15).

Notice that Jesus' relationship with His disciples preceded His assignment to them. Discipleship is the intensely personal activity of two or more persons helping each other experience a growing relationship with God. Discipleship is being before doing, maturity before ministry, and character before career.

Every Christian, including you, is both a disciple and a discipler in the context of his Christian relationships. You have the awesome

privilege and responsibility both to be a teacher and a learner of what it means to be in Christ, walk in the Spirit and live by faith.

You may have a role in your family, church or Christian community which gives you specific responsibility for discipling others, such as wife, pastor, Sunday school teacher, home group leader, etc. But even as an appointed discipler, you are never not a disciple who is learning and growing in Christ through your relationships. Conversely, you may not have an "official" responsibility to disciple anyone, but you are never not a discipler. You have the opportunity to help your children, your friends, and other believers grow in Christ through your caring and committed relationship with them.

Similarly, every Christian is both a counsellor and counselee in the context of his Christian relationships. A good counsellor should be a good discipler, and a good discipler should be a good counsellor. Biblically, they are the same role. Your level of maturity may dictate that you do a lot of Christian counselling. But there will still be times when you need to seek or receive the counsel of other Christians. There will never be a day when we don't need each other!

Father, help me remember that I will never be so mature that I need not receive Godly counsel from my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Neil Anderson

Freedom in Christ Ministries

Used by permission

In the second chapter of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul goes on to say:

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19-22)

The Link - March 2023

By uniting believers in Christ, God unites believers with each other (the church). God's eternal plan is shown in the people who are made one in Christ and transformed by the Spirit. Why were we chosen? Paul answers this:

“...in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:12)

Brian recently explained how we might show this to our world in such need:

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you?

To act justly
and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God”
(Micah 6:8)

Let us all seek to do what the Lord requires of us every day of 2023!

Lord, thank You that Your plan has always been to bring everything under Christ. Thank You for including me in Christ, to the praise of Your glory.

Father help me to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with You in all that I do, all that I say and all that I think ~ this day and forever more. Guide me in all things and help me to persevere in doing Your Will.

I ask these things in the name of Your Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Robin

All Bible verses quoted are from the NIVUK (UK): Holy Bible, New International Version® Anglicised, NIVUK® Copyright © 1979, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.®. Used by permission.

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Open The Book - Would You Be Able To Help Us?

To keep working in Godshill Primary (200 children) we need more volunteers.

To keep working in The Bay Primary (400 children) we need more volunteers.

Another school in Ryde has asked for OTB - guess what - we need more volunteers!

Another school in Sandown has asked for OTB - guess what - we need more volunteers!

And for the Bay & Godshill Teams to function properly, we could do with two volunteers with a vehicle each to carry props!

- * No scripts to learn - we have a narrator.
- * Not much 'acting' - the costumes and backdrops virtually tell the story.
- * Fun? Quote from an OTB supporter "We have no business having **that** much fun!"

Please pray, ask your friends, ask God.

Contact: julie.croydon@icloud.com or ☎ 405067



Samaritan's Purse

Urgent appeal: Responding to the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.



In the early hours of 6th of February, while many were still asleep, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit the Turkish region of Gaziantep - one of the strongest to hit the area in more than 100 years. Hours later, a second earthquake hit South East Turkey with a magnitude of 7.5.

Devastating news of the destruction caused in Turkey and Syria has quickly spread across the world. In the first few hours alone, thousands were reported killed or wounded, and the numbers are still rising.

As search and rescue teams worked through the rubble, the scale of the crisis is becoming clear - masses are without shelter, food, water, or even warm clothing to protect them from the freezing temperatures.

Urgent help is needed to save lives

Right now, Samaritans Purse has staff on the ground and a mobile hospital and dozens of medical personnel was airlifted to Turkey on 9th February to address the urgent physical needs of families suffering in the wake of this natural disaster. Hospital components were then transported to Antakya in southern Turkey, historically known as Antioch. In this area, where believers were first called Christians, the tent hospital has been set up to include two emergency operating rooms and a pharmacy. Emergency relief supplies, including tarps, blankets, and solar lights, will also be delivered. the supplies to provide desperately needed emergency relief.

You can help victims in Turkey and Syria by donating today - no great gift is too small to matter

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. (Psalm 46: 1-3, NIV)

Much of southern Turkey and northern Syria have been impacted and communities have been devastated by the disaster. These are difficult areas and already undeserved due to conflicts in the region and now they are facing one of the worst natural disasters to hit the territory in almost a century.

Your gift today can support those facing this catastrophic crisis

Samaritan's Purse has experience in providing relief after earthquakes, with a number of past responses including Haiti, Ecuador, Nepal and the Philippines. Now in Turkey, our teams are assessing the needs on ground and we are working with local partners to provide urgent support.

As many people are trapped in buildings and thousands injured or left homeless, the already extreme needs are escalating. **We urgently need your help to save lives.**

Will you consider making a donation today to support our crisis relief efforts? Every penny donated makes a real difference to people whose lives are at risk. To donate go to:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/idr-crisis/responding-to-the-earthquakes-in-turkey-and-syria/#idr_give

"This massive earthquake has devastated Turkey. Thousands of people were killed and hundreds of thousands have been left homeless and are searching for their loved ones. It is cold there and survivors are in shock—they need our help. We are responding to meet needs in Jesus' Name. Please pray for all those who are suffering." - Franklin Graham (CEO Samaritan's Purse)

Please join us in praying for all those impacted by this disaster and for our teams and partners as support is provided in this difficult time.

Thank you so much to those who have already given me gifts of money to send to Samaritan's Purse. Do ask if you'd like to know more.

Blessings, Jane H

Source: Samaritan's Purse

Israel Revealed



This is an invitation, for those of you who may be interested, to join a 10 session 'Israel Revealed' discussion group. The group sessions we facilitated in 2019, 2020 and in 2021/2 were a rich experience because of the balanced way in which we learned together of God's Heart for the Land/people (Israel) – to which Yeshua (Jesus) happens to be returning at His Second Coming! In the course of the studies, we found ourselves seriously considering our own, personal, responses to this fact of Scripture.

We feel the time is right to facilitate yet another group – in person, probably in our home.

We would encourage you to look at the link: www.israelrevealed.org and watch the 22 minute introductory video on that link https://youtu.be/AwM_bPHbZIQ by Arni Klein (even if you have already been through an 'Israel Revealed' group). Arni says that, at the end of it, you will know what you think – you will not be neutral even if you are not in agreement! God is not neutral about Israel. It will help us to see Israel in a global perspective.

It is really a journey of discovery together – not teaching per se – because the object is for our discussions to lead us to connect with God's Heart and to understand why Israel is such a big part of His Heart!

If you are interested in joining a group soon, we would like to know – specifically:

- which day/s of the week and time of day would best suit you – or not suit you;
- and whether our home in the Shanklin Old Village is a convenient venue for you.

Hard copies of the book can also be purchased through this link, but we do keep a supply ourselves, for which a donation of £10 per copy enables us to replace them.

Please pass this information on to anyone you think may be interested.

Love and blessings, and looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Roy and Melodie

melodieroywilson@gmail.com

A Prayer for Refugees and Displaced

Lord God,

We pray Your protection for those on the run and in fear for their lives. Your earthly family had to flee persecution, so You know what they suffer.



May the refugee and the displaced know that You have gone before them, and are preparing a place for them.

Strengthen and equip them as they build new lives in unfamiliar countries and difficult conditions, whether for a short or long time.

We pray especially for those affected by the earthquake: may they find the help that they need, and may they, too, be a source of strength for each other.

Above all, may those who have left their homeland know their citizenship is in heaven; and may those exiled from their family find brothers and sisters in us.

Lift up their hearts, strengthen their steps, bring them to a place of safety, and may they always find their true home in You.

Amen.

Source: Open Doors

Focus

on our Christian Brothers and Sisters being persecuted for their faith

How are Open Doors partners supporting Christians impacted by the earthquakes?

As local Open Doors partners assess the needs of believers and others in Syria and Turkey, please continue to pray that God will provide, heal and restore all those impacted by the earthquakes.

Thank you for praying for and supporting our church family affected by the earthquakes on Monday 6th February. Local Open Doors partners are working hard to assess the needs of believers and others and provide trauma care and aid.

What's the situation in Syria?

In Aleppo and Latakia, people are searching for a safe place to stay for the night. Churches have opened their doors and people are now starting to find places to sleep. These people are also receiving food, supplied by local partners.

In Latakia, three churches have offered shelter to victims so far. In one church alone there are nearly 1,000 people. In Aleppo, 7,000 people across different churches are being cared for with shelter, food, water and other basic needs. Open Doors partners are supporting these churches in their response to the crisis.

"I saw destruction everywhere," says Leyla (name changed), an Open Doors local staff member who arrived in Aleppo this week. "I saw people gathered in the streets, next to their new 'home' – their car, where they are now sleeping."

While such sights are horrifying, in Syria they are all too familiar. Christians in northern Syria have suffered crisis after crisis for more than a decade. Many believers are still trying to rebuild after the

brutal reign of the Islamic State group and the recent conflict with Turkish forces. The earthquake is just the latest tragedy to impact them.

“Aleppo was already devastated by the decade-long [Syrian civil] war,” Leyla says. “It was already unsafe for residents to be staying in some buildings, so when the earthquake hit, lots of buildings crumbled in minutes.”

Some believers wonder why something like this is happening yet again. They’ve been through so much over the last 15 years.

God's hand is still visible in Syria

And yet, God’s hand is still visible to His people in Syria. Leyla told a story of a woman who lives on the fifth floor of a building with her son. Their building collapsed, but both the woman and her son miraculously survived. The son, who didn’t believe in God, yelled “thanks be to God” and decided to begin following Jesus.



People in Latakia are being supported through local churches in the area - please keep praying that God will provide for their needs

Leyla visited three churches in Aleppo and saw the earthquake damage first-hand - what hadn’t been destroyed by years of war was suffering due to the impact of the earthquake. Even the churches have visible cracks in some cases. And the cold winter creates an additional challenge. “In Aleppo, the temperature drops below [freezing] at night,” Leyla says.

The Link - March 2023

“[Though] our partner church leaders are affected themselves, they are providing food distribution and shelter for the homeless,” Leyla says.

The church in Syria has been through more than a decade of challenges, and the earthquakes present a new and horrible reality. But God’s people are not about to give up on serving their community and being a light for Jesus in the midst of the darkness. “The Centres of Hope are opening their doors for everyone,” Leyla says. The wider community is receiving vital support here, and many are sleeping in the church hall at night.

What’s the situation in Turkey?

In Turkey, local partners are working with Iranian Christian refugees who have been affected by the earthquakes. We know of one Turkish Christian family in Adana that have lost a child and their house. The local church there was able to give them food and spend time with them. Please pray for them as they grieve.

The current need here is not for shelter, but for heaters, blankets and sleeping bags; these are what our partners and local churches are working towards providing. Please pray for peace – there is a lot of fear due to the continuing aftershocks, and many people are frightened and panicked.

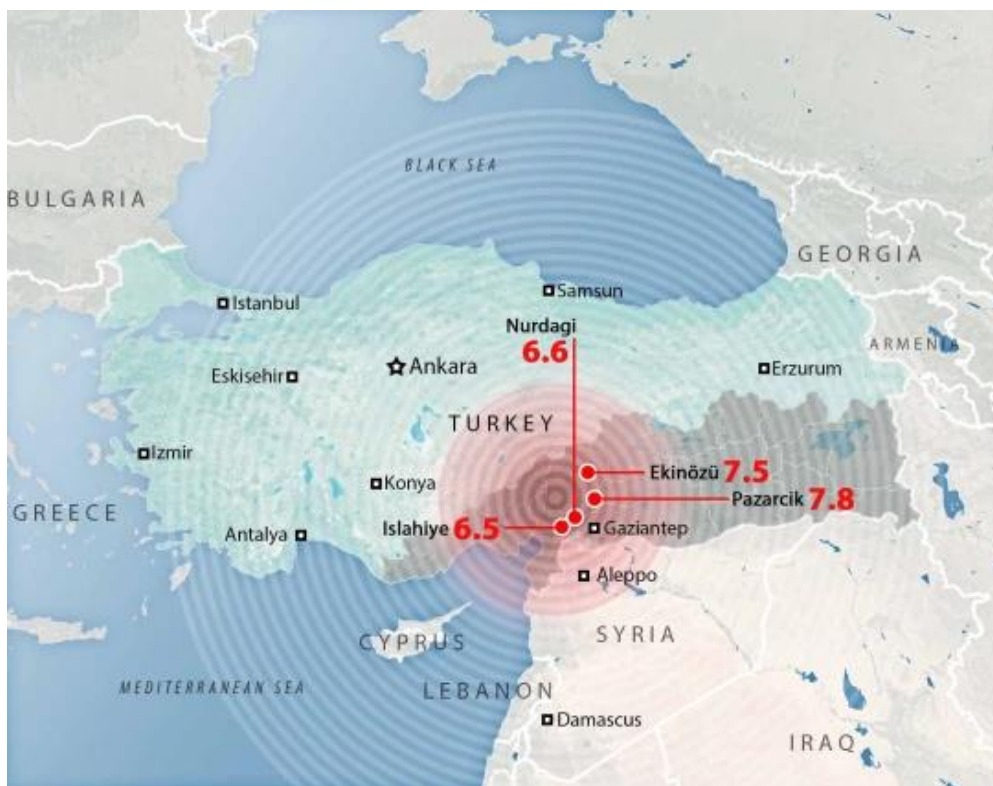
Local church partners continue to gather information and resources

Thanks to your prayers and support, Open Doors partners in the affected areas are helping churches that are offering shelter to the victims of the earthquakes, to those whose houses are damaged and to those who are afraid to sleep in their own homes because of potential further aftershocks. Food and other basic needs are being distributed as well, such as mattresses and blankets.

Local partners are also working to identify those in need of trauma care, and will work with them to make sure they are properly cared for. The team in Syria are currently looking to identify ten students who were about to graduate from a trauma school programme to form a group, led by a professional, who will provide basic trauma care.

Please Pray

- Give thanks for all the support Open Doors partners have been able to give so far and for the impact it's having
- That more shelter and aid will become available, and more people will be cared for
- That God will pour out His peace on Turkey and Syria and calm any fears of future disaster.



“The Centres of Hope are opening their doors for everyone,”
Leyla, Open Doors Partner

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



OpenDoors

Serving persecuted **Christians** worldwide



SONGS OF Living Waters

FRIENDS FROM NITON
SHARE THEIR FAITH IN JESUS THROUGH
THE GIFT OF MUSIC

FRIDAY 10TH MARCH

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM FOR A 7:30PM START

SHANKLIN URC, HIGH STREET, PO37 6LA

CAFE STYLE WITH CAKES + DRINKS
SERVED THROUGHOUT

Retiring offering in aid of Kalasa Church,
Uganda and Helping Hand Cambodia

LIONHEART FESTIVAL

14th to 16th July 2023

County Show Ground, Northwood

The Lionheart Team are pleased to announce that, following the success of the 2022 Festival and the massive encouragement we have received, we shall gather again in 2023 with a wonderful line-up of worship bands and speakers to be announced in due course.

Tickets are now available via the website:

<https://lionheartfestival.co.uk>

Are you able to volunteer in some way to help with the event...?

Connection Quiz Answers

1. **Cornet.**

2. **Baritone.**

3. **Euphonium.**

4. **Tubby the Tuba.**



5. **Connection: They are all instruments that are played in a brass band.**

6. **This issue's cover photo is of: Shanklin URC (as if you needed to be told that!!)**

Sudoku

A numerical
placement puzzle!

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

Enjoy!

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

1	2			3		4		5			6	7	
8											9		10
11			12			13				14		15	
			16			17			18		19		
20											21		
			22					23					
											24		
25						26							
27		28		29						30			
						31	32		33				
34									35				

Last month's Sudoku - how did you do?

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

Across

- 1 2024 Olympics host city (5)
 4 The lion from 'The Herbs' (7)
 8 For Example *initials* (2)
 9 En français c'est dix (3)
 11 Multi role Panavia jet that flew with the RAF 1979 - 2019 (7)
 15 Not applicable *initials* (2)
 16 An Extended Play record *initials* (2)
 17 Sixth planet from the sun (6)
 20 Capital of Latvia (4)
 21 - de Triomphe (3)
 22 Back of something (4)
 23 Not slow (4)
 24 Everything (3)
 25 Jam - Poly, dessert (3)

- 26 Woodworking tool (6)
 27 Relating to bears (6)
 30 Not more (4)
 31 Austrian name for Vienna (4)
 34 Element H (8)
 35 Capital of Norway (4)

Down

- 1 Football team 'The Posh' play in this city (12)
 2 Earlier (3)
 3 Use this to wash with, either as a bar or liquid (4)
 5 A flat buoyant structure used on water (4)
 6 He 'phoned home' (2)
 7 Japanese currency (3)
 10 Disorder that affects the ability to control sleep-wake cycles (10)
 12 Almost (6)
 13 Large flightless bird (7)
 14 Either (2)
 18 Country below Canada (3)
 19 - Imbruglia, Australian singer/actress (7)
 23 You keep chilled food in this (6)
 28 - James, 'Carry On' actor (3)
 29 New, from Greek 'neos' (3)
 31 En français c'est nous (2)
 32 Not out (2)
 33 Not yes (2)

Can You Guess The Year?

- Sir Matt Busby announced his retirement.
- The film '*Carry on Camping*' was released in the UK.
- The Beatles perform in public for the last time.
- And UK No. 1s included:
 - Fleetwood Mac with '*Albatross*'
 - Thunderclap Newman with '*Something the Air*'
 - The Archies with '*Sugar Sugar*'
 - Rolf Harris with '*Two little Boys*'

Answer next issue

This Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Questions

1. Which men's football team 'did the double' in 1971?
2. What was Tower 42 in London originally called?
3. What is the capital of Moldova?
4. What did the Romans call Colchester?
5. Who was King George V's wife?
6. What is the name of the warship moored near London Bridge?
7. Who wrote the novel '*Les Misérables*' ?
8. When was the comic strip '*Peanuts*' first published?
9. On the periodic table, which element is Fe?
10. When was the Humber Bridge opened?

Answers next issue

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

Sunday 19th March

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

surc.thelink@btinternet.com

Last Issue's Solutions

- Guess the year: it was 1973

- Last issue's crossword ↓

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

Last Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Arsenal | 6. King Charles III (to the Channel Islands) |
| 2. 1097 | 7. 1898 |
| 3. Bamako | 8. Charles M Schulz |
| 4. Deva Victrix | 9. Helium |
| 5. He didn't have a wife - he died aged 15 | 10. 708 |

Sunday Service

Morning

10:30 Morning Worship in church

Broadcast live on YouTube

→ **Holy Communion** on 1st Sunday of each month

→ **All Age service** on last Sunday of each month

Weekday Activities

Monday 10:00 Prayer for Israel on the Church Zoom

Tuesday 14:00 Bible Bite ministry in church

Broadcast live on YouTube

19:30 Prayer Meeting on Zoom

Wednesday 11:00 The Well

Friday 10:00 CatURpillars

Saturday 10:30 Coffee Morning on Zoom

– a chance to catch up and have a chat

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

→ **inside the church**

→ **on our Facebook page**

→ **and on our website**

Minister: **Rev Brian Harley**



10 Dracaena Gardens, Shanklin PO37 7JQ



01983 862485



brianharley58@gmail.com

Day off: Monday

Secretary: **Robin Wightman**



robinwightman@aol.com

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

www.shanklinurc.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1130459