

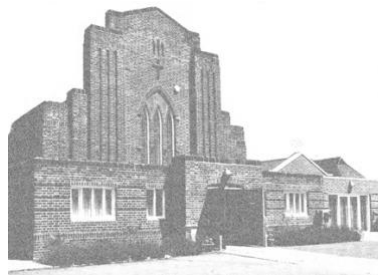
Grapevine

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER,
NOVEMBER 2024

Ickenham United
Reformed Church
Magazine



MINISTER
*Rev'd
Wilbert
Sayimani*



Contact Secretary and Grapevine Co-Ordinator

John Miller

1 Pynchester Close

Ickenham

Middlesex UB10 8JY

Tel: 01895 904 556

E-mail: onepynclose@blueyonder.co.uk

Church Administrator and Lettings Officer

Shellie D'Arcy

c/o Ickenham United Reformed Church

Swakeleys Road

Ickenham

Middlesex UB10 8BE

Tel. No: 01895 913 262 / 07792143888

E-mail: ickurc@aol.com

Web: www.ickenhamurc.org.uk

Please would you inform Shellie if you change address, phone number, or email address, in order to help us keep up to date records

Children & Families Worker:

In Vacancy

(hope to fill this position soon)

Opinions expressed in Grapevine do not necessarily reflect the views of Ickenham United Reformed Church

From the Elders

Welcome Wilbert

At last after many years of searching, discussing and endless meetings we have now have the joyful and brilliant news of a new minister to lead us.

The Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani and his family have moved into the manse and joined our community at Ickenham.

Wilbert's first service at the URC took place on Sunday 1st September and his induction is taking place at Christ Church, Uxbridge on 21st September, to which all are welcome.

As you may have gathered, his position is on a sharing 50/50 joint pastorate with Christ Church.

On behalf of all of you at the Thames North Synod, Ickenham URC, St Giles' Church and our village of Ickenham we welcome him, his wife Regina, and his children to our great community.

It has been a long journey to bring him here and we all look forward to a bright and fruitful future.

John Miller

Birthdays



September	
9 th	Sheila Mills
12 th	Richard Piper
15 th	Diana Holland

October	
17 th	Patricia Potter
27 th	Pat Smith



November	
8 th	Janice Osborne
15 th	James Murray
24 th	Emma Charlton

Family News & Dates

Food for Thought - Speaker

Rev'd Lesley Goldsmith

Wednesday 4th September

1.00pm to 2.00pm

Elders Meeting

Thursday 12th September 2.00pm

in the Hardwick Room

Late Summer Forecourt Sale

Saturday 7th September

10.00am to 12.00pm

Prayer Group in

Hardwick Room

Weds 18th September 2.00pm

Harvest Festival Lunch

Sunday 29th September after the church service

Church Meeting

Sunday 6th October after the church service

Rukiga Fund Raiser

Coffee & Cakes at St Giles'

Tuesday 8th October

10.00 - 11.30am

Liaison Meeting in The Oasis

Thursday 10th October 7.00pm

Prayer Group in

Hardwick Room

Weds 16th October at 2.00pm

Weds 20th Nov at 2.00pm

Saturday 23rd November

7:30pm-10pm

Apollo male choir concert at the URC (proceeds to RYID – *Rukiga Youth in Development*).

Church Services

Sunday 1st September 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday 8th September 11.00am

led by Jeremy Day

Sunday 15th Sept 11.00am

Led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday, 22nd Sept 11.00am

led by Jeremy Day

Sunday 29th Sept 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday 6th October 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday, 13th October 11.00am

led by Geoff Easton

Sunday 20th October 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday 27th October 11.00am

led by Abel Zea

Sunday 3rd November 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday 10th November 11.00am

Remembrance Sunday

led by Jeremy Day

Sunday 17th November 11.00am

led by Rev'd Wilbert Sayimani

Sunday 24th November 11.00am

led by Rev'd Lesley Goldsmith

Joint Churches Seder Meal at the URC



The word “Seder” comes from the Hebrew root word “sadar” which means “order”. The Seder meal is a ritual meal that marks the beginning of the weeklong celebration of Passover. It is full of rich history and powerful symbolism, celebrating the Jewish people’s deliverance from slavery in Egypt. It is a time for reflection, celebration, and remembrance.

On Maundy Thursday about 30 people from our two Ickenham Churches joined together for a Christian Passover or Seder meal. This was ably organised and led by Peter with Navina from St Giles’ Church. After a short service where we retold the story of the Passover from Exodus 12, we moved to the hall to share a variety of symbolic foods interspersed with Bible readings and hymns.

Elements of the Meal

Having had our hands washed before dining, we started with the first of four cups of wine. I am glad to say that we remained seated rather than adopting the tradition of participants reclining on their left side to symbolise their God-given freedom!

The first cup of wine for sanctification and blessing, is a reminder of God's grace, rescuing his people from all that held them captive. To us, there is also redemption from everything that enslaves us. The second is the cup of deliverance as a symbol of joy recalling God's deliverance of his people. However, it is also a symbol of sorrow, a reminder of the misery brought into the world by human sinfulness. For Christians, it represents the celebration of what God has done for his people, transforming imprisonment to liberty, tears to laughter, despair to celebration, and darkness to light. The third cup is for redemption. It celebrates God's deliverance of his people, both from the plague of death that struck the Egyptian first-born and from their long years of slavery. For us, as Christians, that deliverance comes definitively in Christ, who gave his all to

set us free from whatever denies and destroys life. The final cup symbolises thanksgiving and hope. It is a reminder of all God has done, and of all he will yet do.

- Green herbs, (in particular parsley or “Karpas”) are dipped in salt water. Salt water represents tears of sorrow shed during the captivity of the Lord's people. For us, the green of parsley calls to mind springtime, offering a reminder of new birth and new beginnings in particular, the new life God has given us in Christ.
- Bitter herbs (horseradish with lettuce or “Maror”) are another reminder of the bitterness of slavery and suffering in Egypt.
- The lamb shankbone or “Zeroa” is a reminder of those lambs sacrificed in Egypt in obedience to God's command, indicating houses of Israelites to Passover. For Christians the Passover lamb takes on new significance in Christ, whose blood was shed to bring us freedom and new life.
- Unleavened bread or “Matzoh” is also called is "bread of affliction" because it recalls the unleavened bread prepared for the hasty flight by night from Egypt. For us it reminds of the need to rid our lives of everything (the leaven) that corrupts and destroys, trusting and following God instead.
- “Charoset” is a mixture of chopped apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine, representing the mortar used by Jews in building palaces and pyramids of Egypt during their slavery.
- Roasted egg or “Beitza” symbolises distress and despair, but also new beginnings. Having been roasted in fire, it represents all those who have faced the ordeal of grief and mourning, thus offering a reminder of the suffering and sorrow in our world. But eggs also are traditionally a symbol of new life. They speak of the God who offers new life to us and to all.

Some Jews and Christians say the ritual Seder meal commemorating the Israelites' liberation from slavery in ancient Egypt is so uniquely Jewish that it doesn't belong in Christian churches. However, Christian-led Seders like this that stay true to the intention and history of the ritual are not a concern to most Jews. The symbols inherent in the practice, such as redemption and renewal, resonate with members of both faiths and have given rise to holding interfaith Seders. During our meal, we shared traditional foods, remembering their traditional Passover meal significance but also considering how they relate to us as Christians. It was a chance to recall the Old Testament Passover which would have been so important to Jesus and his disciples and then finally to celebrate Jesus' love for us as we shared Holy Communion.

Julie Dungey

Apologies from Co-ordinator.....Thank you to Julie for the above article. It should have gone into the June/July/August issue. My fault I missed it. I feel it is of such interest that appearing now was better late than never.

Letter from Jeremy Day

I am very grateful for the support of you all as I embark on the Assembly Accredited Lay Preachers course through Northern College. The calling to do something like this has been there for some time and I've always managed to 'fob' God off with a reason or two as to why not to do it. More recently, God's response has been '*make it happen*' and after much prayer and thought, discussions with others, a discussion with George our Synod Moderator and the training and ministries teams both at Thames North Synod and the URC the way forward became clear. You ask yourselves lots of questions when you ponder this decision, your worthiness, your abilities, your time to name but a few. The decision wasn't easily taken, I can assure each of you of that and I flip-flopped a few times.

In July I had a Zoom meeting with the Support Tutor and asked all the most obvious questions that I could. I received my Course Handbook, 45 pages long, and details of my first online session

and my first weekend away at Northern College. I shall be at Northern College on Saturday & Sunday 14th & 15th September. A highlight of this weekend will be the all 'current students' BBQ followed by a special church service for everyone but particularly those leaving study – hopefully me in two years' time!

The cohort for 24/25/26 is full, with twelve of us students undertaking the course. We are from all over the country, varying ages, experience and skills and there are two of us from Thames North amongst the twelve.

I have been assigned my Mentor from North Thames Synod and we've chatted, I've shared my fears for the course, and they've really reassured me and encouraged me and I in turn feel the reassurance and support from you all.

The course is what's called 'blended learning' in as much as there are different ways of learning including online, zoom meetings, tutor groups and face to face meetings both at Northern College and with my mentor who is part of our Synod. Working only 4 days a week from the start of October will give me that 5th day to spend doing some of my study, updating my portfolio, reading and preparing for leading worship here at Ickenham but also at the other churches I have made a link with.

The course itself is very varied and includes the following five key sessions – *Personal Development, Crafting Worship, The Word, The Theology of the URC and Contextualising*. I'm not pretending when I say the most daunting of these to me is the Theology as I'm by no means academic, but I've been assured that with the right approach I will find that enjoyable.

One of the key messages from reading the handbook is that I will need to reflect on where I have seen God afresh in my time of study and exploration. I don't know what that means yet, so it is a focus on my thoughts and prayers currently. Also, I'm not a great reader but heartened that the suggested book list does have audio versions which I will find my way of 'reading'.

Here's a short, very personal reflection on my 'decision making' to accept God's calling to this part of my Christian Journey.

'Why does God keep nagging me to do this, what does he want from me and why me – I'm far from perfect and we've had 'cross words' – God & I – in the past and we even 'fell out', well, I fell out with him, but I realise now he never stopped loving me. Perhaps those cross words and his acceptance of me as who I am made the difference, strengthened the call perhaps. Perhaps my resolve to end my differences with God and reaffirm my trust in him and in turn his trust in me really mattered. I'm an extrovert obviously but my desire to lead Worship in whatever form isn't about a need to be seen leading from the front, it's about using my skills and talents, creativity and time and passion for God to help others make their individual and collective response to God. My response to God is seemingly simple and my hope through the course is that I grow to understand more about God & Jesus and appreciate more the Christian journey I'm on and that of all of us so that we can all worship collectively and celebrate the love of Jesus for us in a way that furthers our understanding and our belief in the Father, Son & Holy Spirit'

I'll keep you all updated on my progress through continued articles in Grapevine and I ask your prayers for me as I take on this exciting but daunting challenge in God's name.



Heavenly father, we are thankful for the calling to service to further your kingdom and spread your word. We all have a calling to be Christians and follow your word and play

our part in bringing your Word alive. We're grateful that some are called to minister, preach and lead worship and we ask you to give them the wisdom to do so in a way that develops them and others in their response to God.

Amen

From the Fundraising and Social Group

My contribution this time will be short but very sweet, as the forecourt sale that helped to launch the Ickenham Festival was a roaring success! The crowds flocked in throughout the morning, shown by Oasis takings of £161, the atmosphere was great and the overall amount raised was £1107, a record for us at this type of event, and again we made an important contribution to village life whilst helping two very worthwhile charities. Please support us again if you can at our last outdoor sale of the year on Saturday 7th September and keep looking for any small or quirky things that might sell in our very successful Curio Corner. In the meantime, thanks as ever to all helpers, donors and cake makers. May you receive your reward in Heaven if not here on earth!

Richard Piper

CLICKRukiga

Youth in Development Update



CLICKRukiga update and events for your diary

Torrential rain didn't deter a packed audience of live music fans attending the incredible Mari Wilson concert at The Hub in Chalfont St Peter. Organised by our sponsor Richard Cottle, a keyboards sensation, Mari, Richard and his band gave us their time and talent to raise funds for

ClickRukiga's Youth in Development (RYID) training project.

After a brief introduction outlining the work of our charity the stage belonged to Mari who was an excellent entertainer. She beautifully reprised a series of 60s hits including 'Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps' and 'Don't Sleep in the Subway'. She covered Smokey Robinson, The Beatles and various Burt Bacharach favourites to smiles and singalongs in the appreciative audience. She ended with an encore of her well known 80s hits "Cry me a river" and "Just what I always wanted". With a successful raffle too, the final profit was



just over £2,500! We are now able to send half of the required funds to support the RYID extension.

Dates for your diaries:

Tuesday 8th October 10-11:30am Tea (or coffee) & cakes in St Giles Church Hall (proceeds to the Emergency fund supporting poorer families in crisis).

Saturday 23rd November 7:30pm-10pm Apollo male choir concert



here at the URC (proceeds to RYID).

Please get your tickets early from myself or the other committee members as both will sell out!

Julie Dungey

Trip Down Memory Lane with Holiday Club



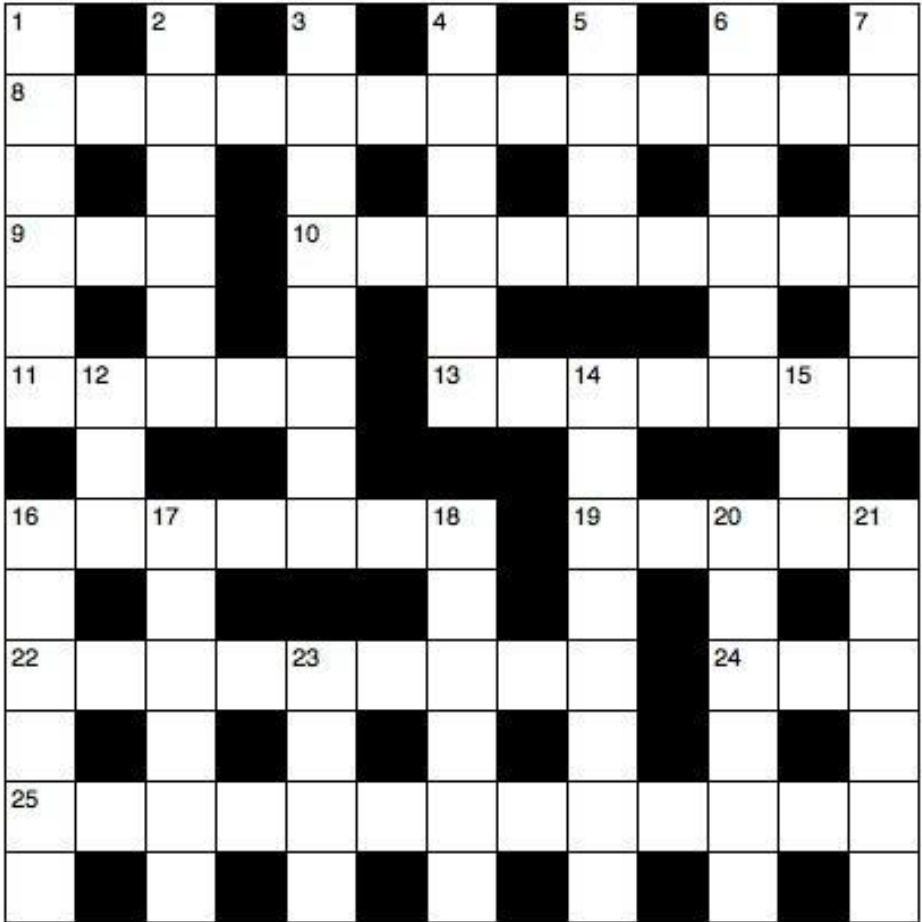
2008



2017



2024 Reception Group Display



Across

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

16. 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
19. Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
22. Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
24. and 2. Down. 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the — ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
25. There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

1. Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
2. See 24 Across
3. Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
4. Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
5. The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus — ' (John 11:35) (4)
6. 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
7. Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
12. 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
14. Second city of Cyprus (8)
15. United Nations Association (1,1,1)
16. One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
17. Braved (anag.) (6)
18. — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
20. 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
21. 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
23. What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)



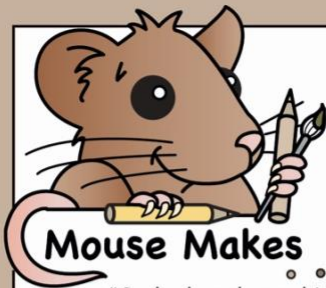
Answers to Crossword in June, July August 12024 issue

ACROSS: 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalingrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth.

DOWN: 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justifying. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.



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



Mouse Makes

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

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

Psalm 67:5-6 NIV

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

Acts 14:16-17 NIV

"Let us fear and respect
the Lord our God.
He gives us autumn and
spring _____
at the right time.

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

Jeremiah 5:24 ERV

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

Proverbs 3:9 ERV

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

HARVEST • THANKSGIVING • LAND • EARTH • FERTILE • SOIL • SEED • SOWN
NEED • WATER • SUN • SEASON • AUTUMN • SPRING • YIELD • PRODUCE
FRUIT • GATHER • CROPS • PLENTY • PRAY • GOD • PROVIDE • JOY
BLESSED • GOODNESS • SHARE

Find the words from the questions too!

Sep24© Deborah noble • parisishpump.co.uk



We are a Fairtrade Church – but what does that mean?

Small-scale farmers and workers are among the most marginalized by the global trade system. However, at Fairtrade, they are at the heart of everything, with producers having an equal say in how Fairtrade is run and being included in decision-making.

Fairtrade's vision is a world in which all producers can enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential and decide on their future. It changes the way trade works through better prices, decent working conditions and a fairer deal. It supports and challenges businesses and governments and connects farmers and workers with the people who buy their products.



For farmers and workers, Fairtrade means:

- Prices to cover the average costs of producing their crop sustainably – a vital safety net when market prices drop
- The Fairtrade Premium to benefit the wider community through clean water, education, transport and more
- Environmental protection to care for God's earth, farm sustainably and reduce the impacts of climate change
- Health and safety and business training to give opportunities to people to reach their potential
- Decent working conditions and a ban on discrimination, forced and child labour
- Access to advance credit ahead of harvest time and ability to plan more for the future with security and stronger relationships with buyers

By choosing Fairtrade products, we can create change through our everyday actions. The fairtrade mark means that [producers](#) and [businesses](#) have met internationally agreed [standards](#) which have been independently certified.

Churches, mosques, synagogues, and other places of worship across the UK have been at the heart of the success of Fairtrade – putting faith into action by using and promoting

Fairtrade products and leading public conversation about justice for the farmers and workers we rely on. Faith groups are key supporters of Fairtrade making the connection between trade and



poverty, and committing to using Fairtrade products including tea, coffee, sugar, biscuits, and much more.

As a Fairtrade Church, we are registered with the Fairtrade Foundation, and have committed to:

- using Fairtrade products wherever possible (at least tea, coffee and sugar) and to share this information with congregants
- celebrate FairtradeFortnight and integrate Fairtrade into the life of our Church.
- engage with other Fairtrade campaigns and connect with community groups, such as schools and towns, where possible.

Churches organise hundreds of events throughout the year – particularly during the annual Fairtrade Fortnight – as well as including prayers and readings about Fairtrade in their worship. This year St Giles and the URC are jointly holding a Fairtrade Café to celebrate 30 years of the Fairtrade Mark.

FAIRTRADE CAFE

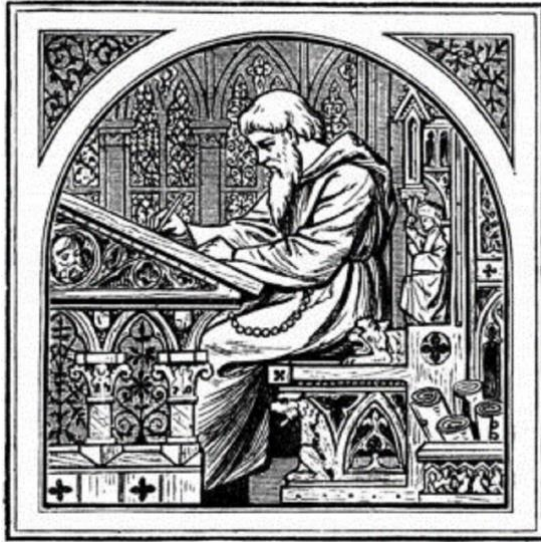
14th September 10am-12 noon

St Giles' Church, Swakeleys Road, UB10 8BG

We will be serving Fairtrade tea, coffee, hot chocolate, homemade cakes and biscuits. All very welcome.

Fairtrade is a brilliant anti-poverty tool that treats people with dignity and brings justice and hope to those trapped by an unfair trading system. Fair and just prices to enable farmers and workers in the world's poorest countries to feed their families and pay for schooling and healthcare. Please join us if you are able!

Julie Dungey



From the Co-ordinator

Sometime ago I was watching a most interesting tv programme about the Octopus. The word “octopus” is a Latinized form of the Greek word *októpous*, which translates to “eight foot.”. Must find something better to do with my time!!

However, it struck me that with eight tentacles (or arms) and the high intelligence of an Octopus, we humans would have the ability to carry out, and multi-task, some amazing feats of skill.

To take my musings further I thought how it would enhance and make the job of our over-stretched Elders somewhat easier.

I muse in vain and decided we will have to put up with what God has already supplied us with and do the best job we are able.

Most of all..... *be very thankful for what we do have and can do with the best our skills allow.*

*For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works, my soul knows it very well.*

Psalm 139 v13-14

The next issue will be for December 2024/January/February 2025
The deadline for copy is 13th November 2024.

Regular Activities

Sunday	10.00am	Choir Practice
	11.00am	Morning Worship (Children's Space available)

Holy Communion is normally included in the third Sunday morning service each month.

Monday	10.30 - 12.30pm	Tea/Coffee in The Oasis Café
Tuesday	10.30 - 12.30pm	Tea/Coffee in The Oasis Café
Wednesday	10.30 - 12.30pm	Tea/Coffee in The Oasis Café
Thursday	10.30 - 12.30pm	Tea/Coffee in The Oasis Café
Friday	10.30 - 12.30pm	Tea/Coffee in The Oasis Café
Saturday	10.00 - 12.00 noon	Coffee Morning (at main fundraising events)

Church Office

Shellie D'Arcy

(Administrator/Lettings Officer) **01895 913 262** / 07792 143 888

Children & Families Worker: Position Vacant

Prayer Group Meeting

Everybody are welcome to attend – Led by Esme Young

Third Wednesday in the Month at 2.00pm in The Hardwick Room

Food For Thought:

(Soup & a roll with speaker)

First Wednesday in the Month at 1.00pm in The Oasis Café

House Groups – Contact Church Administrator for details

For Cubs, Scouts and Beavers -

Chris Potter (Group Scout Leader) chrisspotter_@hotmail.com

For Guides - Hilary Parker - hilaryiparker@hotmail.com

For Brownies - Susannah Parker susannah.may@ledvance.com

For Rainbows – Nicola Joyce - nickyjoyce72@googlemail.com

Happy Days Pre-School – happydayspreschoolickenham@gmail.com
07809 195932