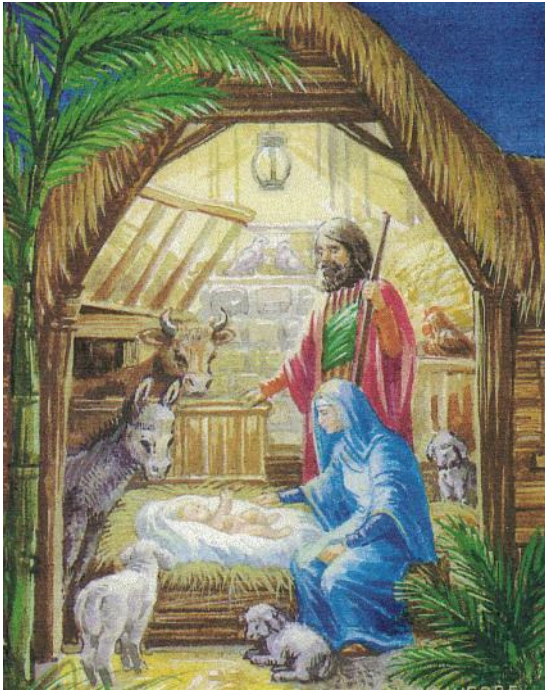




Newsletter

WINTER 2018



*We wish all our readers
a Happy Christmas
and many blessings
for the New Year*

Have You Seen Jesus?





Editor's Ramblings



SEEING

They say that one in five people had bought their Christmas presents before the end of October!

Bought without seeing, apart from what they had seen on the screen. Those who go shopping on

the High Street can see what they are getting for their money.

I like to SEE what I am buying, but at the moment I have to rely on others to shop for me.

A Change to Life

Fred was a jack of all trades. He owned the plastics factory in Old Woking and at the church sale of work at Christmas supplied some lovely gifts to sell. Fred went to Kingfield and was a great friend. Sometime when the church was being redecorated, Fred, also good at sign writing was painting a text in Old English on the wall in front of the church.

He was painting "SIRS, WE WOULD SEE JESUS"

That text changed Fred's life, for the first time he saw and came to know Jesus as his friend and saviour.

Fred died some years later with a massive heart attack and was called home to be with his Lord.

Many people flock to church at Christmas, some the only time they go. Why, they like the carols, the tree, the lights, candles and the mince pies. All the "glitter".

But, if you ask them "did you see Jesus!?", I will leave the answers to you.

Have you seen JESUS?

Fred did, it changed his life and so did the shepherds and the wise men from the east.



To everybody who was able to participate in Julia's farewell lunch. Also for the gifts given and to those who supplied the food.

We wish Julia and Jim every blessing in their new ministry in Reading.

Shoebox Sunday

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this year's Shoebox Appeal. Ruth was able to take 90 shoeboxes to the Guildford warehouse on Monday, and another 62 from Eric's work on Saturday, so that they could be checked, cartoned and stored ready to be loaded onto a truck heading for Bulgaria.

Moderator

We are really pleased that Rev. Mike Stanbrook has agreed to become our moderator. A "semi" retired minister, he worships at Emmaus Road Community Church in Guildford, and is part of the Chaplaincy team at Send Prison. He was previously our moderator during 2015.

Important

Make sure you read the letter from the Deacons as we seek God's guidance for the future, that we continue to worship together Sunday by Sunday.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

For Your Prayers

Please pray for Dawn Lee as she awaits surgery on 26th November at Royal Marsden Hospital.

Please continue to pray for all those with ongoing health problems, especially Veronica Cooke and Liz Rawle who are still suffering from chest infections. Please also pray for Craig Braisby as he is still looking for another job.

RENEW WELLBEING

From the manual I quote "Ask yourself some honest questions about what is going on in your own head, heart and habits.

Our wellbeing starts from the day we are born, right through childhood to adulthood, through school, college, Uni. and into work. A lot depends where we are born, brought up, food we eat and exercise, all will make up our wellbeing.

Some sail through life and others, as we know don't find it easy. The stress of modern day living as we know today can take its toll.

When my wife was taken ill we didn't know what the problems were at first. But the shock of finally knowing knocked my wellbeing for six. It was only the fact that I (we) had the support of the church and the prayers that got us through, and my wellbeing improved. The biggest help was meeting with friends on Thursday Bible Study, knowing that people cared for us.

This is Nothing New for the Church

When Bob and Pam started Wednesday coffee mornings they didn't know who might come in. Gradually ladies came in from the village and people came in from Haven House. The people from Haven House had originally been in the Hospital and they all had their own health problems. At one time the management of Haven House told the people to go to the Baptist church and some did. It was to help them to socialise.

There was no pressure, tea, coffee, a chat - time to share if they needed to.

I got to know most of the people who went on a Wednesday and heard some of their stories. Talking to Roy one day I asked him if he had always been in Woking. He said no, I was born in Manchester and my mother abandoned me when I was a baby. I don't know how he came to be in hospital, he had obviously suffered all his life. We got to know all the people who came by name and made many friends, and one or two even came to church.

This was the church in our community helping the wellbeing of those in need. We couldn't have done this for nearly fifteen years without the dedicated staff giving their time each Wednesday.

THE INCOMPARABLE CHRIST

He was born contrary to the laws of nature, lived in poverty, reared in obscurity, only once crossed the boundary of the land in childhood. He had no wealth nor influence and had neither training nor education. His relatives were inconspicuous and uninfluential.

In infancy he startled a king, in boyhood he puzzled the doctors, in manhood ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows and hushed the sea to sleep. He healed the multitudes without medicine and made no charge for his services. He never wrote a book, yet not all the libraries of the country could hold the books that have been written about him. He never wrote a song, yet he has furnished the theme of more songs than all songwriters combined. He never founded a college yet all the schools together cannot boast of as many students as he has. He never practised medicine and yet he healed more broke hearts than the doctors broken bodies.

He never marshalled an army, drafted a soldier, nor fired a gun, yet no leader ever made more volunteers who have, under his orders, made rebels stack arms of surrender without a shot being fired.

He is the Star of Astronomy, the Rock of Geology, the Lion and the Lamb of Zoology, the Harmoniser of all discords and the healer of all diseases. Great men have come and gone, yet he lives on. Herod could not kill him, Satan could not seduce him. Death could not destroy him, the grave could not hold him.

He laid aside his purple robe for a peasants gown. He was rich, yet for our sake he became poor. How poor? Ask Mary! Ask the wise men! He slept in another's manger. He cruised the lake in another's boat. He rode on another man's ass. He was buried in another man's tomb. All failed but he never. The ever Perfect One - he is the Chiefest among ten thousand.

HE IS THE ALTOGETHER LOVELEY ONE

FOOTPRINTS – A NEW VERSION

Imagine you and the Lord Jesus are walking down the road together. For much of the way, the Lord's footprints go along steadily, consistently, rarely varying the pace.

But your footprints are a disorganized stream of zigzags, starts, stops, turnarounds, circles, departures, and returns.

For much of the way, it seems to go like this, but gradually your footprints come more in line with the Lord's, soon paralleling, His consistently...

You and Jesus are walking as true friends!

This seems perfect, but then an interesting thing happens: Your footprints that once etched the sand next to Jesus' are now walking precisely in His steps.

Inside His larger footprints are your smaller ones, you and Jesus are becoming one..

This goes on for many miles, but gradually you notice another change. The footprints inside the large footprints seem to grow larger.

Eventually they disappear altogether. There is only one set of footprints.. They have become one.

This goes on for a long time, but suddenly the second set of footprints is back. This time it seems even worse! Zigzags all over the place. Stops. Starts. Gashes in the sand. A variable mess of prints. '

You are amazed and shocked. Your dream ends. Now you pray: 'Lord, I understand the first scene, with zigzags and fits. I was a new Christian; I was just learning. But You walked on through the storm and helped me learn to walk with You.'

'That is correct.'

'And when the smaller footprints were inside of Yours, I was actually learning to walk in Your steps, following You very closely..'

'Very good.. You have understood everything so far..' When the smaller footprints grew and filled in Yours, I suppose that I was becoming like You in every way.'

'Precisely.'

'So, Lord, was there a regression or something ? The footprints separated, and this time it was worse than at first.'

There is a pause as the Lord answers, with a smile in His voice.

'You didn't know? It was then that we danced!'

A VOICE FROM HELL

"You live next door to me, for years
We share our dreams, our joys, our tears
A friend to me you were indeed,
A friend to help me when in need

My faith in you was strong and sure,
We had such trust as should endure
No spats between us ever rose
Our friends were like and so our foes

What sadness then, my friend, to find
That after all you weren't so kind.
The day on earth my life did end
I found you weren't a faithful friend.

For all those years we spent on earth
You never talked of second birth
You never spoke of my lost soul
And of Christ who'd make me whole.

I plead today from Hell's cruel fre
And tell you now my last desire,
You cannot do a for me
No words today my bonds will free

But do not err, my friend again
Do all you can for souls of men
Dlead now with them quite earnestly
Lest they be cast in Hell with me

...he that Soweth and he that Reapeth
will rejoice together in that day

John 4 v 36

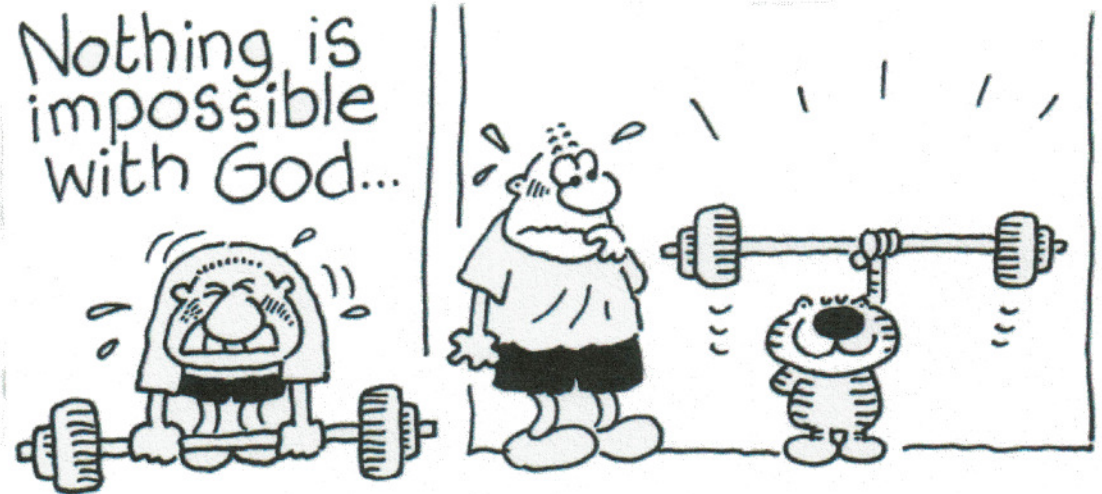
SEARCHWORD

'CHRISTMAS STORY'

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

Word List

Angel	Donkey	Joseph	Nazareth
Ass	Frankincense	King Herod	Oxen
Balthasar	Gold	Manger	Sheep
Bethlehem	Hay	Mary	Shepherds
Camels	Inn	Melchior	Stable
Caspar	Jesus	Myrrh	Star
			Wise Men



SMILE

"The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5 pm - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

At the evening service tonight the sermon topic will be "what is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

'Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

PILGRIMS...



Ruth's Page

We love to sing our favourite Christmas carols at this time of the year, but how well do you really know them? See how many questions you can answer before checking the answers at the bottom.

1. What once stood in Royal David's City?
2. In the carol, "We three Kings," which way is "the star of wonder, star of light" leading them?
3. Which carol originally had a Latin text and a tune used in the 1744 French comic opera "Le Comte d'Acajou"?
4. In the carol "O little town of Bethlehem" who is said to 'proclaim the holy birth'?
5. Which carol has words written by Charles Wesley and the (traditional) tune written by Felix Mendelssohn?
6. Which carol is a paraphrase of Psalm 98?
7. Better known for writing comic operetta, which composer adapted an English melody for "It came upon a midnight clear"?
8. In which carol is it stated that "All is calm, all is bright"?
9. Which Christmas carol is mentioned by name in Dickens' story "A Christmas Carol"?
10. Which carol appeared was printed in America with two verses in 1885 in "Little Children's Book for Schools and Families" and with three verses in 1887 in "Dainty Songs for Little Lads and Lasses"?
11. The Jewish composer, Adolphe Adam, who wrote the ballet "Giselle" also wrote the tune to "Cantique du Noël". What is it more commonly called in English?
12. Where exactly do "the silent stars go by"?
13. Which carol refers to Boxing Day rather than Christmas Day?
14. Which carol appears in the film "Home Alone"?
15. The carol "It came upon the midnight clear" doesn't actually mention the birth of Christ at all, but what is the Christmas message of the carol?
16. Which Christmas carol uses the tune "Dix" which is often used for "For the beauty of the earth"?
17. What is the first line of the "Sussex Carol"?
18. What was the only Christmas carol to be officially sanctioned by the Church of England until 1782?

1. A lowly cattle shed; 2. "Westward leading, still proceeding"; 3. O come all ye faithful; 4. The morning stars; 5. Hark the herald angels sing; 6. Joy to the world; 7. Sir Arthur Sullivan; 8. Silent night; 9. God rest ye merry, gentlemen; 10. Away in a manger; 11. O Holy Night; 12. "Above thy deep and dreamless sleep"; 13. Good King Wenceslas; 14. O Holy Night; 15. Peace on earth and good will to men; 16. As with gladness men of old; 17. On Christmas night all Christians sing; 18. While shepherds watched their flocks by night.

