Romford Baptist Church

Grapevine

Family Magazine

June 2019

and

July 2019

No. 196

From the Editor

I really do like to go walking, although, at times, my knees might not like it as much!

In the Bible, we read about walking in the light. 1 John 1:7 (NIV) says, *"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."* And Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* in John 8:12.

This month you will see many photos and stories about people who have taken important steps in their walk with God. As you page through this copy of Grapevine, I pray that you will be encouraged to walk in the light of He who is the Light.

As the old favourite hymn goes,

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way!
While we do His good will, He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Cheryl Schulte

Editorial Team

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Bernd Schulte	Layout and Production
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Ruth Wiggins	Printing
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Rev. Jan Loveard

Team Minister
(With focus on the older generation)
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Our purpose is to take the life-changing message of Jesus Christ to all, with the goal that they become His loyal disciples.

Hannah's page

June has arrived, and hopefully so has the wonderful British summertime we have longed for! The sun is out, the birds are singing and hopefully there isn't a cloud in sight.

One of the joys of being such an intergenerational church family is that June can mean very different things to all of us. For some it can mean excitement and preparation for summer holidays, for some it can mean the wonderful anticipation of the end of the school year, or a time to relax and reflect on what might have been a very busy time. And for me it means its my birthday this month! (Cards and presents will be gladly received!).

But for others it can mean the stress and pressure of exams, or the nervousness of transitioning into a new year group or a new school. It can also mean saying goodbye to valuable friendships that have helped you through so much. And feeling worried about what happens next.

With all the excitement and anticipation, or worry and stress, it's easy to feel overwhelmed with all that is about to come.

But as Christians we have the wonderful blessing of taking all of this to God. Psalm 139 tells us that God knows everything about us. How we are made, what we are thinking and feeling and doing. Jeremiah 29 vs 11 tells us that God has a plan, which means He knows what's going to happen next and He will guide us through the steps we need to take. Romans 8 vs 28 tells us that because we love Him, all things will work together for good. So even when we feel things are getting messy or going wrong, God is still with us and working things out for us.

All this tells us we don't need to worry; we just need to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord. Because He knows everything that we will need at the exact time that we need it.

So, whatever it is you are about to embark on, my prayer for you is that you know His plan for you, and His peace within you. All we need to do is look to Him, and trust Him.

Hannah Griffiths
(Children, Youth and Families Worker)

The deadline for the August 2019/September 2019 edition of the Grapevine is Sunday 6th July 2019
Please give any items to Cheryl Schulte, put them in the tray on the Welcome Desk or email them to Cheryl at:
grapevine@romfordbaptist.org.uk

Baptism
Geoffrey Gostling – 21st April 2019

Geoff grew up in an Anglican church but he has been part of RBC for several decades, serving alongside his late wife Audrey who was heavily involved in the life of the church. He was always very much in the background, though. When Geoff originally enquired about becoming a member on first coming to the church, he was told that he wasn't yet ready to be a full member, so he became an Associate member. He'd seen a number of people be baptised over the years and now, at the age of 90, he felt it was the time to be baptised. Geoff further explained that, as well as his involvement at things at RBC over the years, he has also been involved with the YMCA and Christian Aid.

Baptism
Bree Lean – 21st April 2019

Good morning church.

My story is simpler than some of the beautiful testimonies I've heard before, but it's something that changed my life.

I've always felt like my life was an endless rollercoaster, and I could barely hold on. I always felt I was apart from those around me. Though I was frequently surrounded by people, I would feel completely alone and lost. People misunderstood me and I was made to feel judged all the time.

During one of these times I found myself in tears of frustration, but I didn't know what to do or where to turn. Everything seemed dark and hopeless, but then I heard myself calling upon God's name and I said: "Father, please, I can't do this no more, please help me…"

I felt calmness wash over me for the first time, I realised that I needed to travel to see my family overseas. I told my partner and we booked my ticket. In the weeks leading up to the flight, I had a persistent feeling that the reason I felt compelled to travel to my family is because I'm going to die. I could not shake off this thought. On the day of the flight, this feeling didn't leave me. The three weeks I spent with my family, I didn't share my true thoughts and feelings with them. I felt intense sadness knowing I was soon going to die.

While I was there, I attended church with my sister and her family on Good Friday. Whilst I sat listening to the service the Pastor asked the congregation a question . "If you died today, do you know where you are going?" These words hit me so hard that my eyes filled with tears … I realised I didn't know…but I knew this was where I had to be, to experience the love and grace of God … I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. I was never alone, Our Father was always with me … waiting for me to accept His hand and to walk the path prepared for me.

All praise to Our Lord and Saviour.
Bree

Baptism
Ele Savine – 21st April 2019

BMS Birthday Scheme

Birthdays June 2019

6th Bren McSweeney
19th Colleen Thompson
21st David Thompson
25th Christine Brown
27th Jiela Bitaga

Birthdays July 2019

8th Gordon Palmer

Flowers

June 2019

2nd Sylvia Daly
16th Rebecca Waigu
23rd Rosemary and Brian Loveard
30th Cheryl Schulte

July 2019

7th Christine Brown
14th Janet Huxtable
21st Hettie Cox
28th John and Christine Stannard

Trouble

The minister's son had just received a bad report from school. Seeking to distract his father, he asked: "Dad, what do you think is the trouble with me? Heredity, environment or just plain original sin?"

Inspirations
Card Making

The next workshop will be on Saturday 20th July, when you are invited to further your stamping skills in the Stamping Masterclass which was requested.

Stamping Masterclass

You are invited to attend this Masterclass in Stamping, which was requested following the previous workshops. We will be looking at masking and picture-making techniques and although it follows on from the other stamping workshops, you will be able to complete the card without having attended these.

The fee for the workshop is £6, which includes drinks, cakes & materials and runs from 9.30am -12.30pm.

Please complete and submit the booking form available in the Foyer, Willow Hall or Welcome Desk by Sunday July 7th, 2019.

Pauline Yates
07742 707790

Baptism
Maica Da Silva
– 21st April 2019

UNLOCK LONDON WALK 36

On Saturday 27th April we met at Romford station alongside 8 others and made our way together to Raynes Park Station, and as the morning progressed our group of 10 became 13. This was our first Unlock London walk and we weren't to be disappointed. We didn't really know what to expect from the day but went with an open mind, comfy footwear and a packed lunch.

We were all given a map showing the circular route and all we had to decide on, as a group, was whether to walk clockwise or anticlockwise around it. There was also a Q&A sheet if we wanted to add some 'I Spy' to the venture! The real basics of the day were that we walked a distance of between 7-8 miles between 9am-5pm and stopped off at 7 different Churches along the way (having a tea or coffee at each one, of course!) This particular walk covered the Merton, Morden and Wimbledon areas.

At each Church, you could collect a well presented leaflet giving information on it and also current prayer requests. It was great to be able to look around the buildings and to talk to the volunteers representing them. You also got the chance to talk with others who were taking part in the walk too. It was wonderful to see the different activities and approaches of the various Churches and to witness the various denominations of Christianity all open their doors and welcome us in. Each Church, although very different in their structure, share the same purpose of reaching out to God's people.

Each year the walk takes on a different theme and this year's one was 'Shining a Light'. Although we didn't really know Michael Eastman, who was the forerunner of this event, it was great to remember him as we walked and to see his light continue to shine on.

We took from the day new friendships and a real sense of belonging. We have already made a note of next year's walk date (25th April 2020) in the hope that this was the first of many London Walks to come. Hopefully next year others will join us for their first experience too. It will be great to represent RBC and Christianity en masse!

Julie Kelly & Simon Bavin

Baptism
Formoso Da Silva
– 21st April 2019

Baptism
Rosantina Da Silva
– 21st April 2019

Prayer Diary for June 2019

Sat 8th	Pray for the services tomorrow on the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Pray that each of us may accept this gift.	SMITH, Maureen; & *Daniel*
Sun 9th	Pentecost Sunday. Think about what this means to you and pray that the Holy Spirit will teach you to pray.	SOSINA, Jessica
Mon 10th	Pray that today (a busy one at the church) may be enjoyable for all coming to Parent and Toddlers, Foodbank, Meeting Place and Streetlight.	SOSINA, Samuel
Tues 11th	There is a lunchtime meeting for ministers of the local EBA. Pray for them as they seek to help local churches.	SPENCER, Devon
Wed 12th	There is a church meeting tonight. Pray that many members may attend, having prayed about the topics arising.	SPENCER, Pamela
Thurs 13th	We have been invited to tour Parliament this evening and hold a prayer meeting there. Pray for all who govern us.	SPRINGER, John & Angela
Fri 14th	As the Special Needs Small Group meets, pray that they may learn as they discuss. Pray too for the leaders.	STANNARD, Andy & Rianna
Sat 15th	Many have been affected by violent storms across the world. Pray for those who have suffered, losing loved ones, homes or livelihood.	STANNARD, Charlotte
Sun 16th	Pray for the visiting preacher (Phil McCormack) this morning, that he may speak to the hearts of many.	STANNARD, John & Christine
Mon 17th	Pray for those who lead 'Holiday at Home'. A lot of planning and responsibility is involved. They need our prayers.	STANNARD, Matt & Heather
Tues 18th	Holiday at Home starts for the older generation. Pray that, as they enjoy company, activities and relaxation, they may benefit also spiritually.	STANNARD, Rachel
Wed 19th	As the Small Groups meet tonight, claim the promise that 'where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them'.	STEPHENSON, Nadine
Thurs 20th	Pray for the worship team as they practise this evening, that they will give a good lead to the singing and worship will be heartfelt.	STEWART, John
Fri 21st	As the older folk from Holiday at Home have an outing today, pray for them, that they will be safe and have an enjoyable day.	SWINDALE, Ben, Becki & *Hannah*
Sat 22nd	Pray for Ian, Vikki, Jan and Hannah as they lead the church. May they seek to learn God's will continually.	TERRY, Karen, & *Robyn*

Prayer Diary for June 2019

Sun 23rd	This afternoon, Vikki leads the final event in Holiday at Home. Pray that the singing and worship will make all think deeply.	THOMAS-REID, Carmen
Mon 24th	For the next three days, outside groups use our premises. Pray for the many visitors, many of whom enter a church rarely.	THOMPSON, David & Colleen
Tues 25th	Pray for today's visitors (HUBB), that they may be aware of the presence of the Lord.	TIDBURY, Pat
Wed 26th	Weightwatchers are today's visitors, they come regularly. May they feel so at home they will come for services. Pray for them.	TIMOTHY, Kathy
Thurs 27th	Pray for the families within the church. Where there are problems, may they always be a matter for prayer.	TIMOTHY, Neil
Fri 28th	Pray for all carers within the church. We pray that they may have strength and compassion in all they need to do.	TOWNSON, Patricia
Sat 29th	Pray that the services tomorrow will be well attended by those who seek the Lord and that those who seek, may find.	TRAYANOVA, Vaska *& Nicholas*
Sun 30th	An important day of worship as Hannah is running an event for teenage girls. Pray for all concerned, especially the teen-agers.	TUCKER, Marian
July Mon 1st	As the Small Group leaders meet to plan the Autumn sessions, pray that they will be guided in all their decisions, especially in what to study.	TUNDE, BJ
Tues 2nd	Pray for the Leadership Team, meeting tonight. Pray especially for their future planning and all decisions they need to make.	TUNDE, JJ
Wed 3rd	Pray for all those in the church who undertake the catering for various functions, that they may receive appreciation.	TUNDE, KJ
Thurs 4th	Pray for Parkside, that all living and working there may know that 'the Lord is in the house'.	TUNDE, Samuel & Lara
Fri 5th	Tomorrow there is a prayer breakfast. Pray for guidance to any wondering whether to go, that they may attend.	TURNER, Colin & Irene
Sat 6th	Pray for the Christian holidays that will happen shortly. Pray for non-Christians, that they may hear the Lord speak to them.	TYLER, Joyce
Sun 7th	Pray for Mike Simpson and Stephen Henwood, who preaches today. Pray for guidance in their preparation.	URSACHE, Victoria, *Flavius & Anastasia* CATARAGA, Silvia

If you have any items for inclusion in the July 2019 Prayer Diary, please contact the Church Office.

Baptism
Luis Da Silva
– 21st April 2019

Pause to Smile

A friend of mine told me of a relative who had terrible back trouble and was in a wheelchair most of the time. Some well-meaning lady had suggested that he should go on a visit to "Lourdes", as the waters there had wonderful healing powers. The chap said he would try anything to get rid of the pain. So a trip was arranged and off he and his wife went. On arrival, he was told that when the waters moved he had to enter the water as quickly as he could, and wait in the water until it calmed down and then come out. This he said he would do, the next day he pushed himself down to the waters edge and waited. Suddenly the waters started to move and people started to move into the water. “This is it,” thought the chap, so he pushed himself into the water. There he waited until the water calmed down, then pushed himself back to the shore. “How do you feel?" asked his wife "Just the same" he replied. Then a man close by shouted "Look it's a miracle!” "WHERE?" said the chap in the wheelchair. "There" said the man "you have four brand new tyres on your wheelchair". .

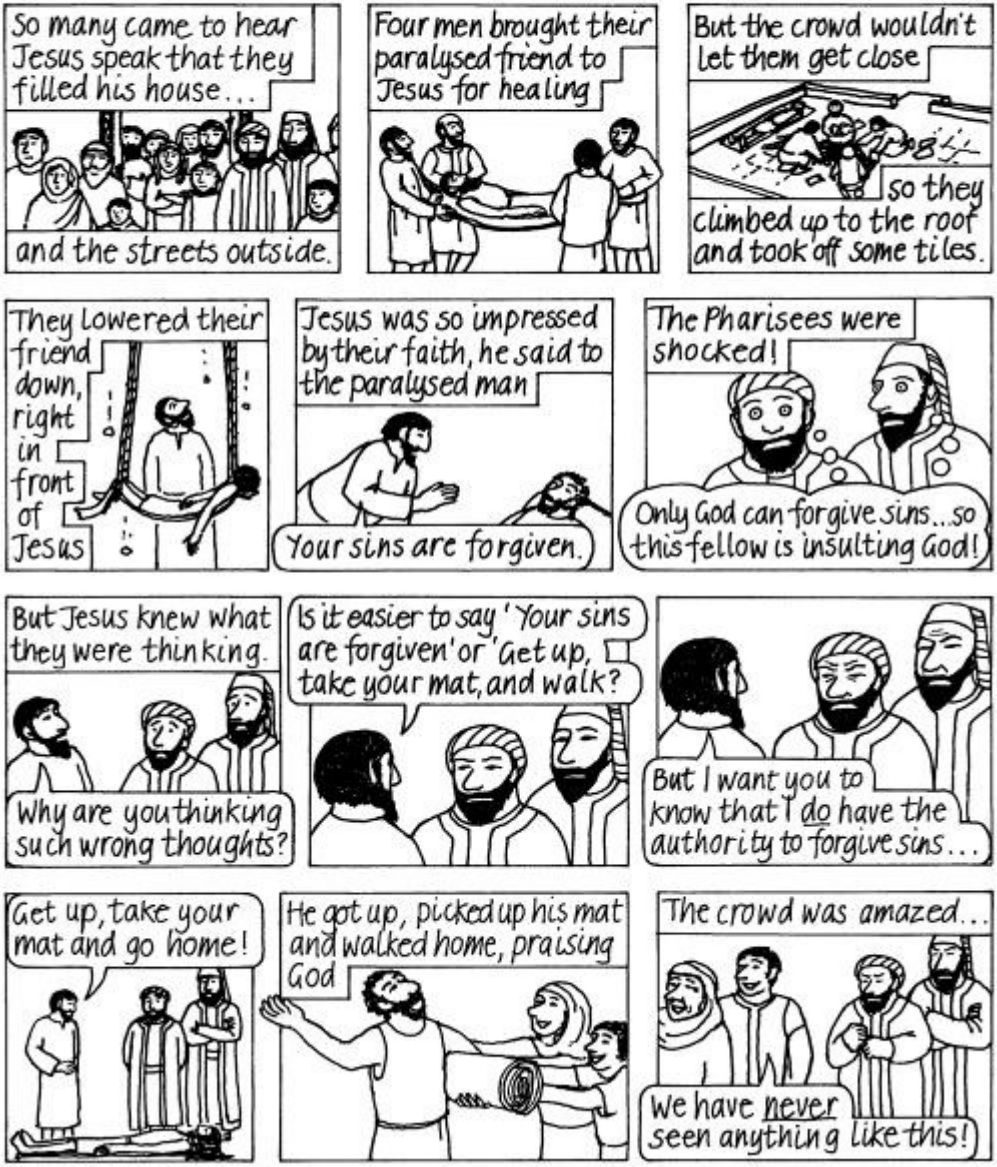
The Church Mouse

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Mt 2:1-12, Mk 9:1-8, Lk 5:17-26

The Pharisees had come to Jesus' home in Capernaum to make sure he wasn't breaking any of their religious rules...



It's your move

This term pupils in Year 6 will be thinking (worrying, perhaps?) about their move to secondary school in September. "It's your move", produced by SU has helped many children make the transition from primary to secondary education with practical guidance and a simple message of God's love. For a number of years, Jan has been able to give these guides to Year 6s in the church and to the year group in a local primary school, and Hannah is repeating this in June.

Some of what's inside:

- A secondary school survival guide, with top tips like making friends, bullying, homework, finding your way around school and much more.
- A survival journal where you can write, draw, reflect and more.
- Survival stories from people just like you – young people who have been in your shoes and not only survived but are actually enjoying their secondary school experience and have some friendly advice for you.

There are a couple of copies in the book stall – please contact Hannah or Barbara G if you would like to know more, but please also PRAY about this opportunity.

Barbara Gatherum

New members are welcomed into membership on 5th May 2019, by Rev. Vikki Bunce and JJ Giwa-Majekodunmi.
Top (l-r): Lorina Kogosha, Dixon Osilli, Lara Oseni
Bottom: Utena Ramman

Congratulations to Fred and Francis Biggs, who celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 10th May 2019.

50th ANNIVERSARY 1969 - 2019

Your Deacons

Jide Fawunmi RBC's Non-Stipendiary Pastor praying for the newly elected deacons.
L-R: Jide Fawunmi, Sam Tunde, John Standard, Rodney Eborn, Ade Ogunleye , John Brown, JJ Giwa-Majekodunmi , Bernd Schulte and Hayley Ayris. Please also remember the other deacons who were also elected but not present that day, Ken Yates and Neil Walden.

Happy Birthday to Hayley, who recently turned **14610** days old! Congratulations!

Crowd

The new minister, encouraged by the numbers in church for his first sermon, began: "I have never had the pleasure of preaching to such a dense crowd before."

Miscellaneous observations

If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.

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You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

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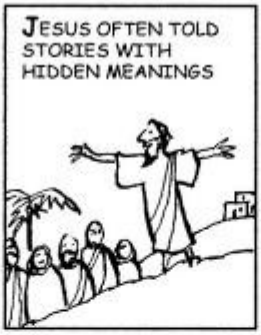
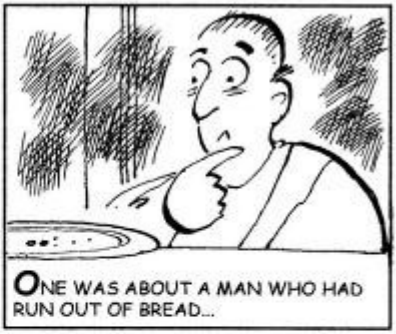
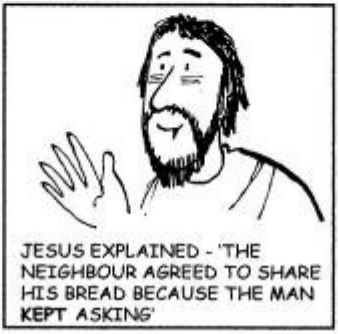
As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

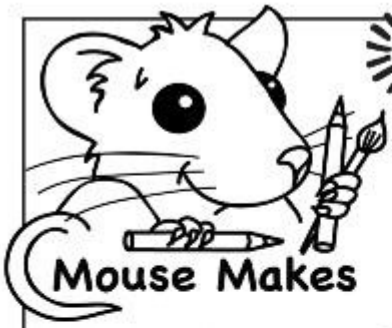
The Church Indoor Picnic - we do live in England after all - was held on 12th May 2019. Judging by the joyful laughter, it was a good event where fun, food and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

The Tale of The Friend at Midnight







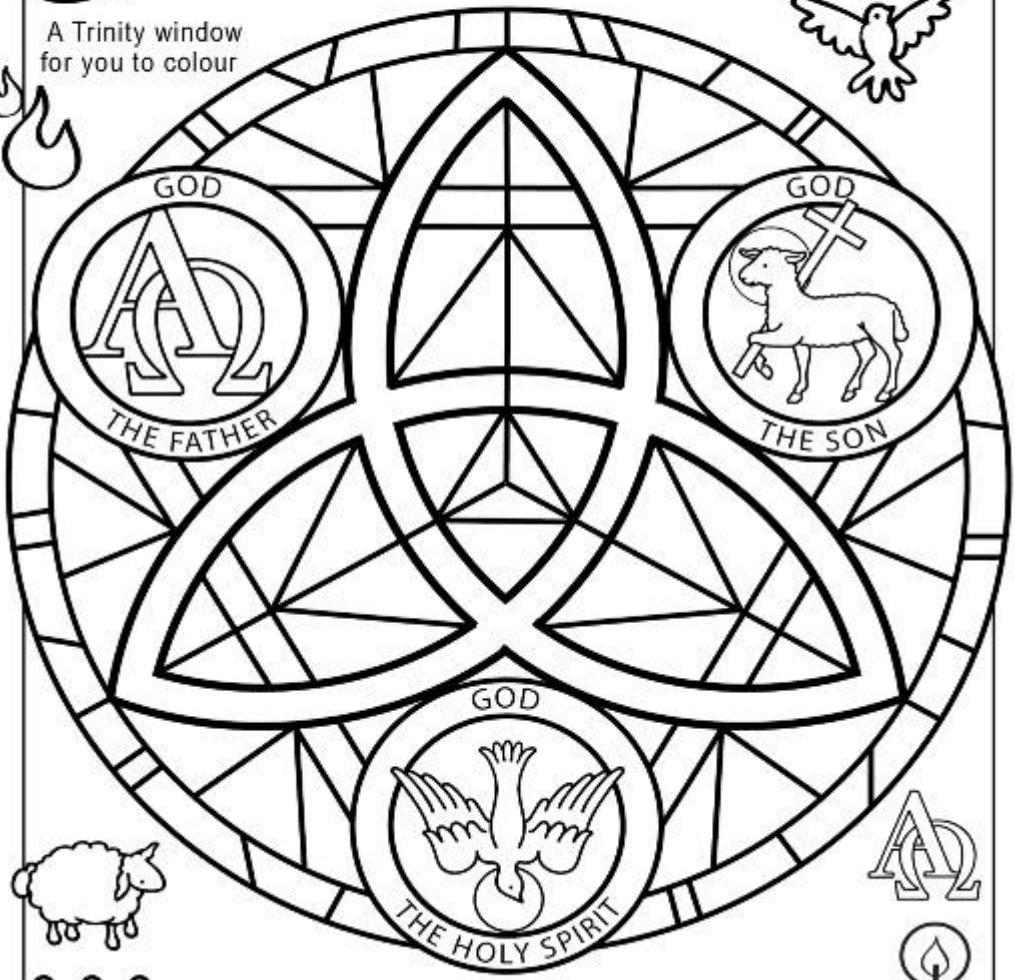


Mouse Makes

"May the ***grace*** of the Lord **JESUS CHRIST** and the ***love*** of **GOD** and the fellowship of the **HOLY SPIRIT** be with you."

2 Corinthians 13:13

A Trinity window for you to colour



The Bible teaches us that God is three persons in one:
GOD = FATHER and **SON** and **HOLY SPIRIT**

Regular Church Activities

Monday	9am - 3pm	The Meeting Place
	10am	Parent and Toddlers
	12pm - 2pm	Food Bank
	12:50pm	Parent and Toddlers
	6.45pm	'Parksiders' (Social and Fellowship Group - usually first Monday in the month)
	7pm	Streetlight Youth Club (Year 7+)
Tuesday	9am - 3pm	The Meeting Place
	10am	'Stitch in Time' Needlecraft Group
	2.15pm	Treasure Times
	8pm	Prayer Meeting
Wednesday	9am - 3pm	The Meeting Place
	9.45am	Parent and Toddlers
	8pm	Midweek Meeting (Small Groups or central meeting)
Thursday	9am - 3pm	The Meeting Place
	9.30am	Small Group
	8pm	RBC Music Team
Friday	9am - 3pm	The Meeting Place
	9:30am	Small Group (Alternate Fridays)
	10:30am	Small Group for People with Learning Difficulties
	12.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Sunday	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
	10.30am	**Morning Service**
	5.45pm	Prayer Meeting
	6.00pm	**Evening Service**

If you have any regular church activity which you would like to have advertised, please let the editor know.

"I'm updating the 'rota notice-board' rota, rota... do I see a hand...?'