



Romford Baptist Church

Grapevine



Family Magazine

July 2024

and

August 2024

No. 227



From the Editor

I recently heard a rumour that it is summer, although I have no firm evidence to support this. It was great to receive a photo of the lovely post box topper made by the Craft Group, where they have clearly anticipated a warm summer.

Summer is a time where many activities take place, yet also a time where we take a break, whether that be due to activities stopping or possibly people going away on holiday. It's an opportunity to catch up on some reading, catch up with friends or just re-charge those batteries in anticipation of the next season.

As the school year comes to an end and we look forward to a bit of rest over the summer months, my prayer is that we will be refreshed, not by taking a break from God, but by resting in Him. We read in Isaiah 40:31 and Psalm 62:1-2,

*but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.*

*Truly my soul finds rest in God;
my salvation comes from him.
Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.*

Cheryl Schulte

Editorial Team

Cheryl Schulte	Editor
Bernd Schulte	Layout and Production
Kathy Pomeroy	Proof Reader
Ruth Lu	Printing
Gill Ayris	Collation
Alex Savine	Photos

Cover photo by Hilary Salisbury

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Team Minister (With focus on the older generation)

Rev. Vikki Bunce

Minister in Training

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Mr Jide Fawunmi

Church Secretary

Miss Hayley Ayris



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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.

Pastor's page

As we journey towards September and celebrating our 90th anniversary as a church, I am hearing a lot of stories from the past. These are great to hear, but in our nostalgic recall there can be a renewed desire to return to the times that are often thought of as being simpler and, through rose coloured spectacles, a lot better. Over the last 90 years there have been a lot of changes, and each change has been met with resistance and often be-reavement as things stop or no longer happen in the way they once did. There are some changes that are thought of as good, and others that may be viewed as a mistake, and yes, some were not the best idea!

As we look forward, we are challenged again with facing the change needed to win those who do not know Jesus. In the book by Dave Gilpin, "Sacred Cows make Great Barbeques" Dave explores the challenge of what needs to be got rid of, that causes an obstacle for those looking for hope and looking for Jesus.

At a recent conference attended by Alison, Hayley and me, we were challenged to refocus the church that we are a part of from focusing on keeping those who come, to reaching those who do not know Jesus. Reaching, it was said, is far more important than keeping and this was, and is, such a challenge. It is a challenge because it often makes us uncomfortable when living out the Great Commission, but that is what the challenge is for us as a church, every person who is part of the church, to find a renewed passion for those who are lost.

Over 90 years Romford Baptist Church has welcomed many into faith and we have all grown in our knowledge of Jesus. As we face the future, however, we need to be far more focused on winning more people for Him, so yes there will be some things we do not like. Will you be prepared to pay the cost to win others for Jesus?

*Team Leader
Rev. Ian Bunce*

Rev Jan Loveard's last day as a Minister at Romford Baptist Church



How you can contribute to the Grapevine!

It is your Church magazine.

It is available both online and in printed form.

We are not short of ideas, we are short of your contributions. It is great when you send us a contribution ready to put into the magazine.

You can send these by email to the Grapevine email address which can be found in the Grapevine or on the church website.

Here are some ideas:

Personal Testimonies:

Share stories of personal faith journeys, how God has worked in your life.

Devotional Pieces:

Write short, inspirational devotionals or reflections on Bible passages.

Event Reports:

Provide report-backs of recent church events, including photos and testimonies from participants.

Upcoming Events:

Announce and promote upcoming church events, meetings, and activities.

Ministry Spotlights:

Highlight different church ministries, their missions, and how people can get involved.

Missionary Updates:

Share updates and stories from missionaries supported by the church.

Interviews:

Conduct interviews with church members, leaders, or notable Christians in the community.

Book Reviews:

Review Christian books, including Bibles, devotionals, and other faith-based literature.

Seasonal Reflections:

Write reflections for special seasons like Advent, Lent, and Easter.

Photography:

Contribute photographs of church events, nature, or anything that inspires faith.

Poetry:

Share faith-inspired poems.

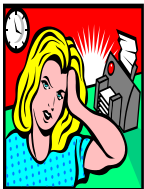
Youth Contributions:

Include articles, artwork, and stories from the youth group.

Environmental Stewardship:

Write about how Christians can care for God's creation.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to many interesting contributions to your church magazine.



The deadline for the
**October /November 2024 edition of the Grapevine is
Sunday 14 September 2024**

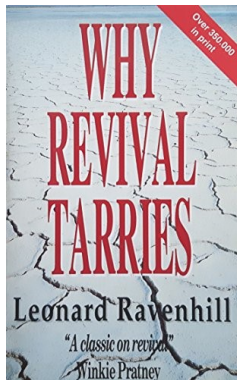
Please give any items to Cheryl Schulte, or email them
to Cheryl at:

grapevine@romfordbaptist.org.uk

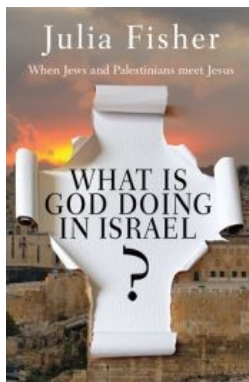


From The Bookstall

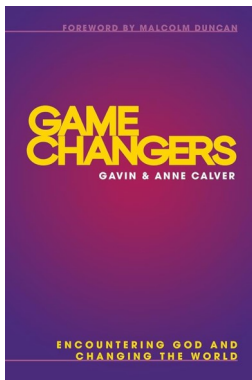
Just to let you know that several books are now 50% and more down in price! So do come and browse. Also just to introduce some new books:



Why Revival Tarries - Leonard Ravenhill:
A timely call to Revival.



What Is God Doing In Israel - Julia Fisher:
Julia Fisher meets Jews who have immigrated from across the world, evangelical Palestinian Christians and Arab Christians, sharing their faith across dividing lines.



Game Changers - Gavin & Anne Calver:
A prophetic call to discover the amazing purposes of God.

A few of the newer books. Do come and browse!!

Annette Dennis

Sparks of Joy

The Sunrise in the morning
A field full of gold.
The shimmer on the sea shore
The moon up in the sky.

All are God's handiwork
His universe to behold.
In every way His joy is there
His love towards His fold.

We are the ones who fail to see
That miracles abound.
Sometimes we miss the fact
Our feet are on the ground.

The gravity that keeps the balance
The pattern of our days.
The sunset in the evening
As night reveals the stars.

So much more to see and hear
For a while just be and stand,
Acknowledging and giving thanks
For His amazing plan.

Submitted by Trudy Martin

Anniversary



Congratulations to Pam and John Wright on their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

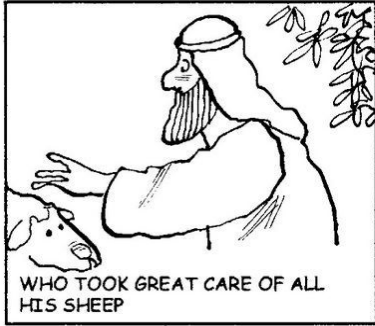
The tale of the Lost Sheep



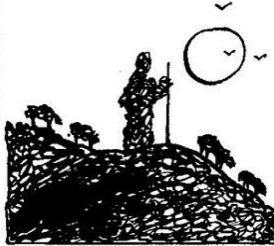
JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



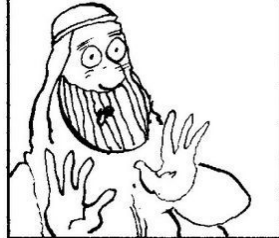
ONE STORY WAS ALL ABOUT A GOOD SHEPHERD.



THE SHEPHERD WOULD ALWAYS MAKE SURE EACH SHEEP WAS SAFE.

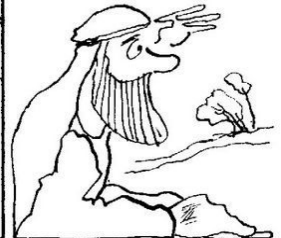


BUT ONE NIGHT HE REALIZED A SHEEP HAD GONE MISSING

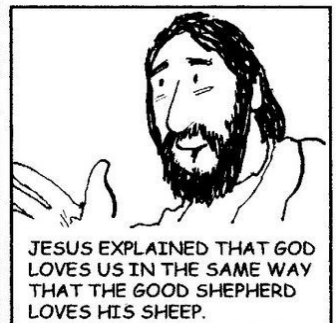
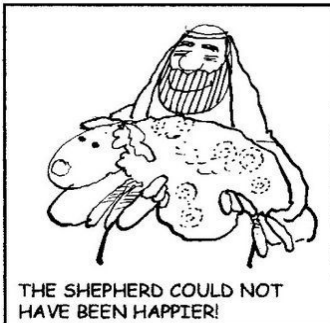


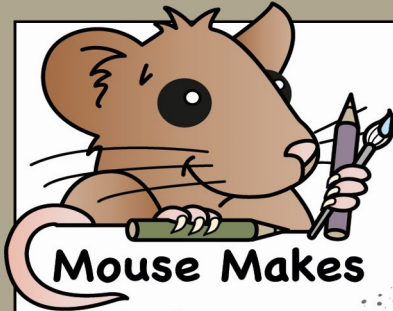
THE SHEPHERD SET OUT TO SEARCH FOR THE LOST SHEEP

HE SEARCHED HIGH AND LOW



AT LAST THE LOST SHEEP WAS FOUND!





Mouse Makes

How many days did the Lord tell Joshua to march around the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3



What did the priests carry that were made from rams' horns?

Joshua 6:4



What was carried along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

On the seventh day how many times did they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6



Who was saved from Jerico along with her family?

Joshua 6:17

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

READ
the story
in *Joshua*
5:13-6:27

JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION

Find the question answers in the word search too!

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Prayer Diary 8th August 2024 – 7th September 2024

Date	People to pray for	Event or other to pray for
Thurs 8 th	WRIGHT, Christine	Pray for the Amaze groups as they have a break over summer
Fri 9 th	WRIGHT, John & Pamela	Pray for Treasure Times as they have a break over summer
Sat 10 th	YATES, Ken	Pray for the Staff Team
Sun 11 th	YOUNG, Colin & Susan	Pray for the Ministry Team
Mon 12 th	ABBEY, Lydia	Pray for the Foodbank still serving clients in the holiday, and the USA booking today
Tues 13 th	ADEKANMBI, <i>Ade, Tolu, Grace, Ade</i>	Pray for Needlecraft
Wed 14 th	ADENYIN, Anu	Pray for the Small Group leaders as they meet tonight
Thurs 15 th	ADEYEMO, Vivian & Adegboye, <i>Theodore, Tobias</i>	Pray for all those receiving their GCSE results today
Fri 16 th	AKINOLA, Emmanuel & Oluwaseun	Pray for the Meeting Place
Sat 17 th	AMOAHA, Johnson & Pumela, Sipho, Isaac & Harry	Pray for CMA and the work they do helping clients become debt free
Sun 18 th	ARGENT, David & Jean	Pray for the All-age services as they continue
Mon 19 th	AROWOLO, Kolawole & Esther	Pray for our youth and children this summer
Tues 20 th	AROWOLO, Samuel	Pray for the Music Group
Wed 21 st	AROWOLO, Emmanuel, Damilola & <i>Oluwadarasimi Jemimah Norah</i>	Pray for the team at Parkside
Thurs 22 nd	AROWOLO, Joshua	Pray for all those receiving their A level results today, and NEFLT using the building today
Fri 23 rd	ASANTE, George & Joyce	Pray for the residents at Parkside

Prayer Diary 8th August 2024 – 7th September 2024

Date	People to pray for	Event or other to pray for
Sat 24 th	ASUMANG, Enoch & Vera, Brendon (Osafo), Brady & Bradley	Pray for the booking today
Sun 25 th	AYRIS, Hayley	Pray for those in government
Mon 26 th	BAAH, Michael & Efua, <i>Michael, Julie, Nana & Stephanie</i>	Pray for those in the emergency services working on the Bank Holiday today
Tues 27 th	BALOGUN, Ayo	Pray for our emergency services
Wed 28 th	BALOGUN, Olakunle	Pray for Parksiders who meet today, and Starshine using the building today
Thurs 29 th	BARNES, Anne	Pray for the older generation in our church
Fri 30 th	BARNES, Joanna, Katie & <i>Matthew</i>	Pray for those working with the homeless
Sat 31 st	BARRETT, Simon & Debbie	Pray for the RBC social after- noon
Sun 1 st Sept	BELLO, (F) Grace	Pray for the leadership of RBC
Mon 2 nd	BENJAMIN, Michael & Michelle, <i>Luke & Sophia</i>	Thank God and pray for our vol- unteers
Tues 3 rd	BIGGS, Frances	Pray for all our groups as they restart soon
Wed 4 th	BITAGA, Dougan, Jiela	Pray for Starshine using the building today
Thurs 5 th	BRETT, Brenda	Pray for the person next to you in the directory
Fri 6 th	BROWN, Christine	Pray for U3A using the building today
Sat 7 th	Peter and Louise Lynch, Bangladesh	Pray for Starshine using the building today



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



Winter Gardens Baptist Church



We recently attended a Sunday service at our link church Winter Gardens Baptist church in Canvey Island and were privileged to join with Rev. Fiona Heddle as she led the service. We were shown around the recent building im-



provements and facilities.

The church is situated in a deprived area with many social needs and they are active in helping meet these in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and to share His love with their neighbours.

They are a vital part of the local community and interact with them in a variety of ways:-

- They are registered as a Warm Welcome Space, open on Mondays from 1pm to 5pm. With free refreshments, Wi-fi, and phone charging.

- Their community Food Bank is run in partnership with Canvey Island Foodbank at Yellow Doors each Monday between 2 and 4pm.
- The Tiny Tot's and Friends Toddler Group on Mondays.
- Pop up Café events on Monday afternoons, which provides a place to meet new people over a cuppa and cake to chat, play a board game or just simply relax.

They have just begun their community garden project following on from the completion renovation of their old hut to become the garden room which Fiona Heddle said RBC very generously played a part in. It has been an amazing transformation and is already beginning to be a big help missionally, financially and for kid's work on Sundays. Fiona is immensely grateful for the support of our Baptist family in so many ways.

"We are hoping that all the wheelchair access paths will be in place by the end of September 2024 for the garden area and that it will be in its first season of planting. We are praying for



one end has balanced out the gain at



the other end so we are still similar in number on Sundays.

Their missional activities during the week are going well and the numbers on the fringe have grown quickly. They have just finished a Hope Explored class followed by a Baptismal class and have at least one baptism, possibly two, to look forward to very soon – praise the Lord.

Neil Walden

spiritual fruitfulness as well as fruit and veg!"

The New Garden room:

Fiona told us that they very much appreciate your prayer support, and told us that the congregation has changed somewhat since our last visit before the pandemic. "This is because many of our older folk are now confined to home due to frailty or have been promoted to glory! Some do join us on Zoom but not all are able to use technology" Fiona continued and also added that they continue to grow in the under 30 age group, but the loss at

BMS BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Birthdays July 2024

- 8th Bree Hacker
- 11th Brian Sharp



Birthdays August 2024

- 5th Iris Hooper
- 14th Sue Sharp



My Loaves And Fishes

As Worship Group co-ordinator, I have the privilege of working alongside an amazing team of people; I am blessed to call them my friends. Aside from practising songs every Tuesday evening, we spend much time praying and sharing together. Our unity has grown ever stronger as we lift each other up in love. However, I wanted to share a personal testimony with you about a difficult decision I made just over a year ago. I hope it encourages you.

I've been able to sing for as long as I can remember. I was in my school choir aged just 7. I am not bi-lingual, as are many people, but music is my second language; it's just an inherent part of me. I sang in the Good Shepherd Worship Group for 12 years and have

while I found a new church. However, when Christ-

mas came, I found it hard not to sing out all the carols so precious to me and my cover was blown. I joined the Worship Group, enjoying serving as a singer. I was tasked soon afterwards with co-ordinating the team and organising rotas. I was happy behind a mic - it felt natural and easy.

When Steve Thompson arrived, I loved singing along to his gifted piano playing. His departure was hard as we no



been performing songs written by my brother Peter for years before that. Upon visiting RBC, I was determined to stay 'under the radar' for a while, sit quietly and just be an 'invisible visitor'

longer had a pianist at that time. I knew I could play the piano a bit (mostly nursery rhymes at work) but didn't feel anywhere near ready to fill such talent-

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

ed shoes, playing in front of a congregation. It was the Worship Group members who encouraged me to have a go. I resisted for quite a while, feeling I wasn't good enough to step up and play. However, God took me to task about this attitude. I kept arguing with God, saying my playing wasn't good enough and trying to steer my mindset into thinking singing behind the mic was where I should stay. But God wasn't having any of it! He quite clearly told me to give Him my meagre musical offering - my 'loaves and fishes'. God told me to offer what I had and He would do the rest, just like He did in the familiar New Testament story. It was a tall order for me. I had only sung in worship groups before, never been behind the keyboard. I was nervous, which was an unfamiliar feeling. God gently reassured me that my offering would be worthy, if from the heart. So I gave it a try. Tentative at first and feeling guilty for using the transpose button (sorry - I just can't play in E flat). The Worship Group instrumentalists encouraged and reassured me that it was OK, so I started to play more regularly and, just over a year later, here I am still playing. I still know my playing isn't at the standard of others, but I just handed over to God what I had and said "OK God. You told me to give You my loaves and fishes, so here they are. It's up to You now to do the rest."

I try in the usual human way to improve and practise and I often feel my efforts are sub-standard. However, God just keeps gently reminding me to keep giving Him my best and not to worry about what He'll do with my offering of serving in this way. He can do amazing things with so little.... which is just as well really.

Sarah Jenkin

Smile Lines

Miscellaneous observations:

I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright - until you hear them speak.

Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for President, and 50 for Miss America?

Sky at night



The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

Press



For the benefit of those who doubt the power of the press, here is a clip from a newspaper: 'Owing to the overcrowded conditions of our columns, a number of births and deaths are unavoidably postponed this week.'



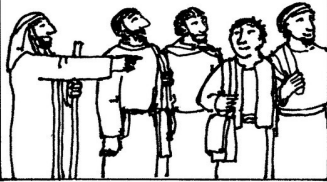
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Numbers chapters 13 and 14

God had rescued the Hebrew people from Egypt and led them to the border of the land He had promised them - Canaan. But it was not empty..

12 young leaders were chosen to check Canaan out.



They went north to where Abraham had been buried..



and they returned 40 days later with fruit, and their report...



10 said
The people there are like giants!
We can't beat them.



Caleb and Joshua said..



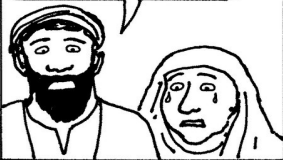
But our God is bigger than they are. We can win!

But the people said

No! We should have died in the desert!



We'll choose a new leader to take us back to Egypt.



But God said..

I have had enough of you not trusting Me. You will wander in the desert for 40 years before your children return here.



We were wrong to complain. Let's go into Canaan!



Don't attack! God will not help you win.



Not listening!

And the Canaanites chased them out of the country.





Current Church Activities



Monday

9:30am

Amaze support group for parents and carers of children with additional needs (usually 1st Monday in the month)

12:00-2:00pm

Foodbank (donations can be dropped off at other times)

Tuesday

10:00am

Needlecraft Group

10.30am

Amaze Adults support group for adults with additional needs

2:00-3.30pm

Treasure Times

8:00pm

Prayer meeting on Zoom

7:45pm

RBC Worship Team meet

Wednesday

10:00-11:15am

Parent and Toddlers

12:45pm

Prayer

7:45pm

Life Groups

Thursday

10:00am

Thursday morning Life Group, alternate Thursdays (please call church office for dates)

10:00-11:00am

'Come and join us for a chat', 1st and 3rd Thursdays

11:00am-3:00pm

Holiday at Home – for over 65s, usually termly

7:30-9:00pm

Youth Club (alternate weeks)

Friday

10:00am

Craft Group in the Meeting Place

Sunday

10:30am

Morning Worship in the building and online

6:00pm

Evening Worship in the building and online

Some activities will not take place during the summer holidays, so please check the notice sheets for more information.

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

1

give get
give get
give get
give get

2

→ **BORN**
BORN
BORN
BORN

3

Jacob Jacob Jacob
Jacob Jacob Jacob
Jacob Jacob Jacob
Jacob Jacob Jacob

4

Priest

5

PASS
LAMB

6

MTWTFSS
BREAD

