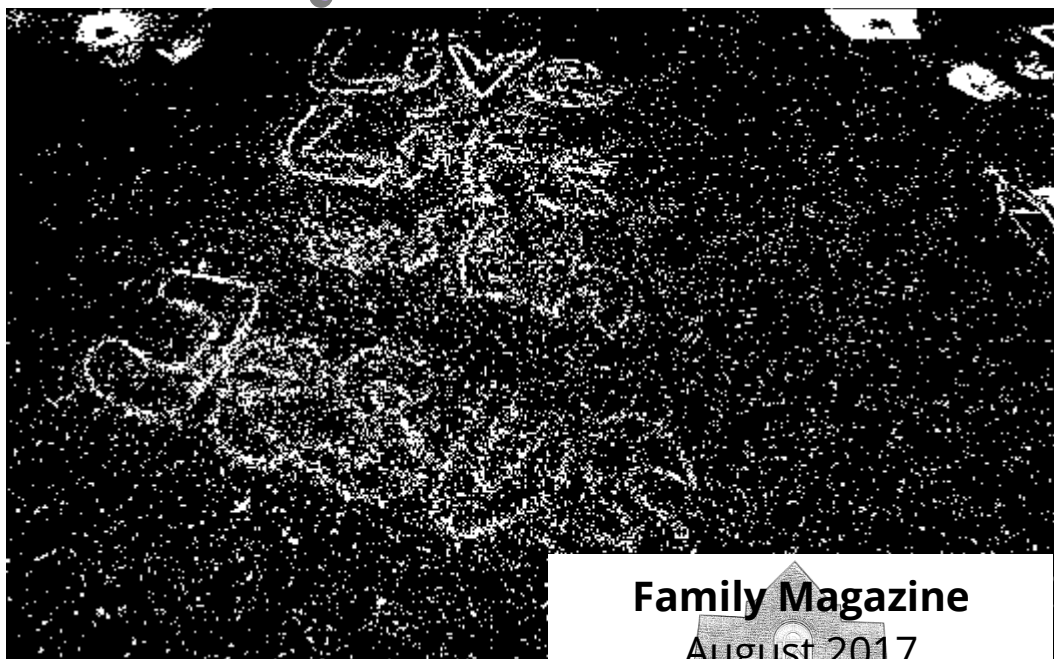




Romford Baptist Church

Grapevine



Family Magazine

August 2017

and

September 2017

No. 185



From the Editor

"School's out for the summer!" We've made it...

It's been an eventful year in so many ways. We've celebrated success, enjoyed fun-filled activities, shared wonderful family occasions, coped with various health issues, supported friends and family and also mourned the passing of loved ones.

As we come to the end of another school year, many of us are preparing for the summer holidays, some planning church activities, family events or restful breaks. It may be a time of resting after a busy time, or gathering strength for future ventures.

Yet in all our resting, it is important to spend time with God, to rest in Him. No matter where we are, God is there to guide and support us.

*⁹ If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea, ¹⁰ even
there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.*

Psalm 139:9-10

May you be blessed this summer, wherever in the world you may be, whichever side of the sea!

Cheryl Schulte

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Cheryl Schulte	Editor
Barbara Gatherum	Missionary Page
Neil Walden	Obituaries
Bernd Schulte	Layout and Production
Kathy Pomeroy	Proof Reader
Ruth Wiggins	Printing
Sheila Cross	Collation
Daphne May	Distribution
Alex Savine	Baptism Photos

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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



I am writing this a few days after the 'Tour of Britain' Holiday at Home and this thought picks up on the theme for our week where we focused in on the sense that *From*

the East to the West there God is. We can all take reassurance from the fact that whatever we are facing and wherever we may be, God will never leave us. Whether we are remaining in the locality, travelling in the UK or going much further abroad over the summer and beyond, God is with us whatever we may be doing and wherever we may be. We cannot out-travel God and, equally amazing, God is as interested in us today as He was when we first made the decision to invite Him into our lives.

All of us are invited to spend a day at the seaside on 19 August as we look to enjoy a day out together as a church community and we trust that this will be a day when we can have fun together, whatever age we may be or however active (or otherwise) we may choose to be on the day. Hopefully, as the summer continues, all of us,

whether we are at home or away, can find time to relax, to recharge our batteries, to refocus and, as is often the case when we have space to think, if our thoughts stray to the weeks and months ahead let us also remember to include God in our plans because He longs to be part of our lives. We often encourage others with the words from Jer 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'* but let us also remember to offer our plans, our times of refreshment, our diaries and our busy lives to God and say to Him, *'These are our plans God but what is it that you are wanting us to do?'*

As a church we gathered at the end of June to discern the plans and future vision for us as a community and, for some of us, that sees the future filled with excitement, action, a new phase of being but we also recognise that for others this leaves us slightly uncomfortable because we don't like change or because it will take us out of our comfort zone and we will need time and help to adjust to what is planned and how it may impact on us. Yet we can all take encouragement from the fact that in it all, God will continue to be with us and He only wants to pros-

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

per and bring us hope and He has promised that He will not leave us or harm us because He holds us all in the palm of His hands.

Huge thanks to the team of helpers who made the 'Tour of Britain' such fun and to all those who came, we hope you enjoy looking at some of the pictures which may remind you of some of what we got up to at the end of June

*Vikki Bunce
Team Minister - Church and Community
Life*







Congratulations



Sandra O'Neal, at her recent graduation from Spurgeon's College.

She has completed the "Equipped to Minister" course. (see page 13)

BMS Birthday Scheme

Birthdays August 2017

- 11th Brian Sharp
- 12th Yvonne Howson
- 16th Margaret Gardner
- 20th Nathan Howson
- 30th Janet Walden



Birthdays September 2017

- 5th Iris Hooper
- 8th Debbie Tharby
- 14th Sue Sharp
- 23rd Elizabeth Powell
- 25th Dickie Beaver



Flowers

August 2017

- 6th Rebeca Waigwa
- 13th David and Coleen
- 20th Ruth
- 27th Lara Tunde



September 2017

- 3rd Fay and Brian Veares
- 10th Daphne May
- 17th Sue and Brian Sharp

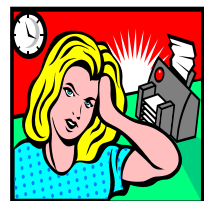


The deadline for the October 2017/November 2017 edition of the Grapevine is **Sunday 17th September 2017**

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



Church Meeting Summary



At the recent church meeting the church received and accepted a number of proposals for a refocusing of the church's life, I thought it would be helpful to outline a few of the decisions here. Sadly I cannot, in a short article, do justice to all that we discussed and agreed, and I would encourage you to be part of the church meetings in the future and help shape where God is leading us. But in short we agreed the following:

- That we would change the roles of each of the ministers and also recruit a further minister or worker.
- I will remain the Minister: Team Leader, covering responsibility for the church's teaching, strategy, discipleship and pastoral care. I will also continue to lead the church, the ministry and staff team.
- Jan will become the Team Minister with a focus on community, covering much or all our work with social action, links with the community and taking a special interest in those with additional needs. She will take up the role once we have recruited the additional member of the team. In the meantime Jan will

continue with our children, youth and family ministries.

- Vikki will be the Team Minister with a focus on the older generation, reaching out to those who are older and helping the church to develop a programme and support for this generation. This will be done in partnership with Parkside. She will begin this role at the beginning of September and this will require her to put down many of the roles she has had up until now.
- We will recruit either a Team Minister with a focus on children, youth and families, or a worker for children, youth and families. This person will review and renew our ministries among these groups.
- The church also agreed, subject to the business plan being completed, to open the coffee shop in the foyer and to appoint someone to oversee this ministry and develop events through the coffee shop, with an emphasis on the young adults' generation.

We are going to continue to look at the completion of the developments of the building and a small group is working on this.

I hope you find this summary helpful.

Ian Bunce

Pause to Smile

I was passing a photographic shop that was newly opened, in our local shopping centre, when I looked in the window and saw a notice, which read:

"Bring your old photos to life: come inside for more information." So into the shop I went, and an assistant approached me and asked if he could help me. I pointed to the notice in the window and said "I have a photo of my old granddad and I wonder if you could enlarge it for me" to which he replied "Of course we can, Sir that's easy." I showed him the photo, which was two inches by three inches. "How large would you like it Sir?" he said. I replied "About six inches wide by eight inches high." The assistant then asked "What about having it coloured?" I thought that it would be a very good idea. "Yes

please" I said. "Well what colour clothes was he wearing?" asked the assistant. I replied "A grey suit with a dark waistcoat and a blue shirt with a darker blue tie." "Good, and what sort of complexion did he have?" asked the assistant. I answered, "A fair complexion I would say, and could you remove that dirty old cap he is wearing in the picture as he had a head of magnificent red hair". "That's no trouble at all" said the assistant, "All that is part of the service, Sir, it will be ready in two days time". I then went to leave the shop when the assistant called after me "By the way, Sir, which side did your grandfather part his hair?" To which I replied, "When you take his hat off you will see."



Hymns for People Over 50

Give Me the Old Timers' Religion
Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up

Just a Slower Walk with Thee
Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up

Nobody Knows the
Trouble I Have Seeing

OVER FIFTY

Helpful signs

Sign on a door: Push. If that doesn't work. Pull. If that doesn't work, we're closed.

A sign advertising a Company-wide skiing race: Let's see who can go downhill the fastest.

On a plumber's van: We repair what your husband fixed.



I want to say a huge 'thank you' to all at RBC for all they've done over 53 years to guide, support, encourage and love me in my Christian journey following Christ, and to praise God for placing me in such an amazing church family. RBC has certainly been, and will continue to be, very special to me.



Thank you, too, to everybody for all the cards, gifts, prayers and help given at the celebration of our marriage, helping to make it a wonderful day!

Praying God's richest blessing on you all and sending loads of love,

Debbie Tharby xx

Prayer Diary for August 2017

Tues 8 th Aug	Local Baptist ministers' lunch today. May it be a time of encouragement to all.	EMBERSON Les & Kath
Wed 9 th	Pray for Ruth and Anthea who serve RBC through their administration skills.	EREKU, Laraine & Derek, <i>Josiah, Rekem, Elandre & Dante</i>
Thurs 10 th	Remember some of the outside groups who use our premises – Blood Donors, Weight Watchers, etc.	EWEOYA Ben & Ona, <i>Timi & Ninu</i>
Fri 11 th	Pray for the Street Pastors and those at the Deeper Lounge, as many will be “enjoying” Romford nightlife.	FALETI Ola & Esther, <i>Emmanuel</i>
Sat 12 th	Pray for Ade and the continuing work he does with RIESS – Additional Needs Youth Club.	FAWUNMI, Jide & Yemi, <i>Ayomide, Ayoolamide, Favour & Fisayo</i>
Sun 13 th	Pray for and thank God for the ministries of Ian and Vikki Bunce.	FEINSON Graham & Emily
Mon 14 th	At the start of a new working week pray, for those who are struggling financially, especially the unemployed. Thank God for CAP, and the Food Bank.	FEINSON Peter & Gill
Tues 15 th	Look at the Sunday sheet and pray again for those in special need.	FLACK Ken & Linda
Wed 16 th	AS and A2 results out today. For the disappointed and the jubilant, may our young people know God has a plan for their lives.	FORD Janet
Thurs 17 th	Rahel (youth intern from Germany) arrives today. Pray for God's blessing on us all as we go forward together.	GATHERUM Barbara
Fri 18 th	“Church Day at the Beach” tomorrow. Pray for sun, safety and spiritual uplift for all who visit Southend.	GEARING Bert & Rita
Sat 19 th	Soul Survivor starts today until the 24 th . Pray for Graham, Emily, Ami and Rahel with the 16 plus group going today.	GHERASIM Dana, <i>David & Samuel</i> TOADER Damaris (Niece)
Sun 20 th	Vikki is at Elm Park this morning. Pray for courage to talk to someone you do not yet know at RBC	GILL Marjorie
Mon 21 st	Remember those recently bereaved.	GOSTLING Geoffrey
Tues 22 nd	Pastoral group meeting tonight. Help us all to be aware of Your leading and guiding, moment by moment.	GRIFFITHS Margaret

Prayer Diary for August 2017

Wed 23 rd	Pray for the local Baptist churches and their needs. (Elm Park/Chase Cross seeking pastors) and those from this church seeking to help them.	HALL Ian & Susan
Thurs 24 th	GCSE results out today. Pray our young people secure the courses they need to further their education and serve God.	HANLEY Barry & Stephanie, Claire
Fri 25 th	Remember our elderly and housebound church members. Could you visit someone this weekend?	HARDING John & Sue
Sat 26 th	Thank God that He touches our lives today.	HAYWARD Joy
Sun 27 th	Thank God for our hearing as we listen to His word today.	HARRIS Clarissa
Mon 28 th	Thank God for the children of RBC and those who lead them, both on Sunday and during the week.	HARRISON John
Tues 29 th	Thank God for the variety and vibrant colours of nature that we see around us daily.	HARVEY Liz
Wed 30 th	Taste and see that the Lord is good.	HENNIKER Joyce
Thurs 31 st	Smell the countryside, the seaside, flowers and food. Thank God for our noses.	HENSON Ruth
Fri 1 st Sept	Pray for Andy and Rianna Stannard as their departure for mission in Moldova draws near.	HENWOOD Stephen & Dorothy
Sat 2 nd	"Family Fun For All" at RBC. May we benefit from quality time together.	HIGGINS Pauline & Kevin, <i>Lauren & Rachel</i>
Sun 3 rd	As "Family Fun For All" continues, thank God for the gifts of joy and laughter.	HILLS Emma, <i>Samuel & Benjamin</i>
Mon 4 th	Pray for our children and young people as a new school year commences, especially those attending new establishments for the first time.	HOGBEN Cynthia
Tues 5 th	Pray especially for the Deacon's Meeting this evening, thanking God for those who serve Christ and the church in this way.	HOLMAN Jill
Wed 6 th	Thank God for Michael Baah and the Finance team for all their faithful work.	HOOPER Jim & Iris
Thurs 7 th	Ian speaking at Parkside this morning. Pray for all the residents, staff and trustees.	HOWSON Nathan



If you have any items for inclusion in the September 2017 Prayer Diary, please contact the Church Office.



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

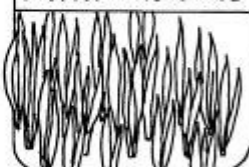
It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew chapter 13: 24-30, 36-43

Jesus told this story to help explain
what his Kingdom, the Kingdom of
Heaven, is like...

A farmer's workers sowed
good wheat seed in his field.



When the seeds
sprouted they
looked the same



When the plants grew bigger
the workers spotted the weeds



They asked the farmer



An enemy did this



No, you might pull up
some wheat with them.
Wait until harvest time



You will be able to sort them
out, and put the wheat in the
barn ... and burn the weeds



People asked



The field is the world
and the good seeds are
the good people



The weed seeds
are the evil people. At the end
of time they will be separated.



The angels will bring
the good people to me
in heaven.



New Beginnings

As many of you know, I came to faith through attending the Parent and Toddler group back in 2002 with Georgia, my youngest daughter, who was 2 years old at the time. My journey with God has been an exciting one but it's not always been easy, I was the only Christian in my family and felt quite alone in my faith at the start, but God has been so good and faithful as I have now seen many of my family also come to know Christ.

I always believed God had a plan for my life but it has taken some convincing on my part to understand fully what this has meant. I can be quite a hesitant person and wherever God has placed me to serve I have always felt that's where I would stay. If I had my way, I would still be behind the craft table in toddlers!

But God's plan is not our plan, and with each hesitant step forward God has opened up a world to me that I never thought possible. I have now completed the 'Equipped to Minister' course at Spurgeon's College and, much to my surprise, I have loved studying and going deeper into learning about Theology.

I have been so thankful for my role here as Pastoral Worker for Youth and Evangelism for the last 15 months, it

has helped me to gain valuable experience through being part of the leadership team of this church, but it always felt temporary, almost like a another stepping stone to something else. After much hesitancy and lots of prayer and encouragement from many people, I am now going forward to start the theology degree course in September. This will be part-time over the period of 6 years. This will enable me to attend Spurgeon's College and continue to study but also to balance family life, especially now with my new Granddaughter, Rosie, born in February and soon-to-be Grandson due in October.

I just want to say a big thank you to all those who have encouraged and prayed for me along the way, especially to Jan, who has played a major part in helping me to grow as a leader in recent years. I am continuing to serve God here at RBC as a Sunday School teacher for our eldest group for as long as God calls me, and with God's help achieve all He has called me to do in the future.

Love Sandra x

'Purposes, plans, and achievements of men may all disappear like yon cloud upon the mountain's summit; but, like the mountain itself, the things which are of God shall stand fast for ever and ever'

Charles Spurgeon



We had great fun at the Embossing Masterclass in July – I think we all learnt something and we certainly created some beautiful backgrounds, embellishments and shapes to use on our cards! The next session will be on Saturday 14th October 2017 from 10:00am – 3:00pm in the Willow Hall. This is our long session, and we will be thinking ahead to Christmas as we welcome Sue Sharp to tutor our Starry, Starry Night workshop.

Whether you choose to join Sue or to experiment with heat embossing with me, you are sure to have an enjoyable time filled with fun and laughter. Just complete a booking form sign up.

The £10 fee includes materials and morning refreshments (homemade cakes!), just bring your lunch!

Please book as soon as possible to ensure your first choice of workshops.

Everyone is welcome! Even if you are not a regular card maker – just come along for some 'me' time and let the creative juices flow – you could be surprised and we will love to see you!

Starry, Starry Night - Sue:



Sue will be leading this workshop, where you will be creating a beautiful Christmas card, using a silver star, recycled from an old card. Sue will show you how to make lovely cards from recycled materials you may have lying around. You can also use crocheted embellishments on your card which can be removed later and used in the home, either as decoration or in a practical way. You do not have to be able to crochet, but Sue is prepared to share her patterns if you wish to give it a try.

From Embossing to Embossing - Pauline:

Following on from the Dry Embossing

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

Masterclass in July, Pauline will be showing you Heat Embossing.

We will make a beautiful background for our card using stamps and ink pads before adding the embossing powder. Then, when heated with a heat gun, you can watch the powder melt, leaving a beautiful shiny image – it's magical! We can then add embellishments and more stamping to complete the card – the options are endless.

To register for this workshop, please complete the booking form available in the foyer of the church or on the notice board in the Willow Hall. Please book by Sunday 1st October 2017. (Cheques payable to "RBC Inspirations" please). Then either hand your form to Kathy at the Welcome Desk, the Ruth or Anthea in the church office or to me.

If you would like more information about Inspirations, please ring Pauline on 07742 707790 or leave a message with the church office (01708 743382) and we will call you back.
Pauline Yates

*We look forward to welcoming you.
Pauline Yates (07742 707790)*



New Members

2nd July 2017 - JJ Giwa-Makekodunmi, our Membership Deacon, welcomes Samuel Arowolo, Joshua Arowolo and Emmanuel Arowolo into membership.



New Members

2nd July 2017 - Rev Ian Bunce welcomes Emmanuel Akinola into membership and Rob Brett into associate membership.



MOSES

Have you seen the Disney film, 'The Prince of Egypt'? It tells a story from the Bible about Moses whose mother and sister left him in a basket on the bank of the River Nile. Pharaoh's sister found him and a little Hebrew boy was brought up as an Egyptian prince.

As Moses grew older he became more and more angry at the way the Hebrew slaves were treated. Moses ran away to the land of Midian where he settled down. But God called to him – and kept on calling. For every excuse that Moses had, God had an answer (Exodus, chapter 4). Finally, Moses went to Pharaoh but it wasn't until awful things happened that Pharaoh listened and agreed to let the Hebrew slaves go free.



Pharaohs were all powerful in Egypt, but Moses was following a much greater power. The Pharaohs of

Egypt left dead monuments of stone but Moses brought together a whole living people, God's people.

TOO MANY GODS

The ancient Egyptians had a different god for just about everything. Can you tell which of these were worshipped in the time of the Pharaohs and which ones I have made up? Answers at the bottom of the page.

GEB was the god of the earth and is shown in art as a man with a goose on his head.

KHARPET was a goddess of the homes, especially floors. She is shown wearing a feathered hat.

HATHOR was the goddess of love and joy and shown as a cow.

PHYLM was the god of artists and craftsmen. He is shown in pictures with 2 pairs of arms. Small figures of this god are often found in boxes called khameeras.

TAWARET was a goddess who protected women during pregnancy and childbirth. She is shown as having the head of a hippopotamus with the arms and legs of a lion, the back and tail of a crocodile, and the front of a pregnant woman.

THOTH was the god of writing and knowledge. He is shown in art as a baboon.



What is the earliest mention of pharmacy in the Bible?

When Moses was given 2 tablets.



Answers: I made up Kharpet and Phylm. Well, you put carpet on the floor and film in cameras (say them aloud), don't you?

The
Tale of the
**TWO MEN
SAYING
THEIR
PRAYERS**

**JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS**



**ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO
WENT TO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY**



**ONE WAS A PHARISEE
(A MAN A BIT LIKE A PRIEST)**

**THE OTHER WAS A TAX
COLLECTOR. (NOT A POPULAR
MAN IN JESUS' DAY).**

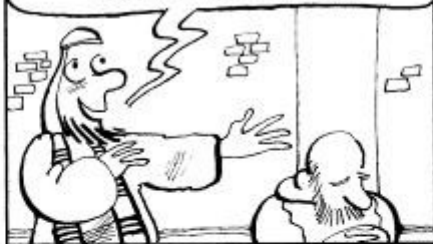


**THE PHARISEE BEGAN
TO PRAY**

**WHAT A GREAT CHAP I
AM! I NEVER DO
ANYTHING WRONG!!**



**I AM SO PLEASED WITH MYSELF,
ESPECIALLY AS I AM NOT A SCOUNDREL,
LIKE THIS TAX COLLECTOR!**



**BUT THE TAX
COLLECTOR COULDN'T
EVEN RAISE HIS HEAD**

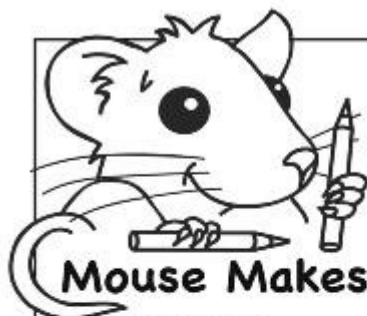
**DEAR GOD... I AM VERY SORRY!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR
ALL THE WRONG THINGS
I HAVE DONE.**



**IT WAS THE TAX COLLECTOR,
NOT THE PHARISEE, WHOSE
PRAYERS WERE HEARD!**



**JESUS EXPLAINED -
'DON'T BE PROUD WHEN YOU
PRAY - INSTEAD BE HUMBLE'.**



Mouse Makes

Where did God ask Jonah to go?

Read Jonah 1-4

What did Jesus tell his disciples *not* to take with them on their journey?

Read Matthew 10:9-10

Who spoke to Saul on his journey to Damascus?

Read Acts 9:3-8

What animal took Balaam to Moab?

Read Numbers 22:22

How did God guide the Israelites on their journey through the wilderness?

Read Exodus 13:21

Who did Abram take with him on his journey to Canaan?

and

Read Genesis 12:4-5

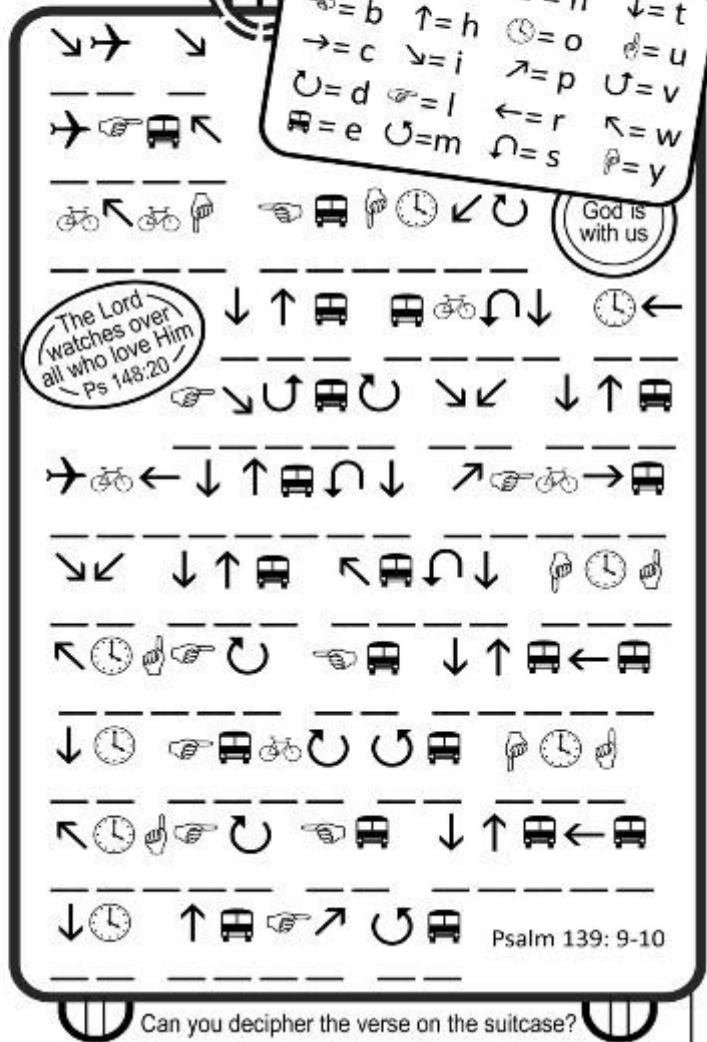
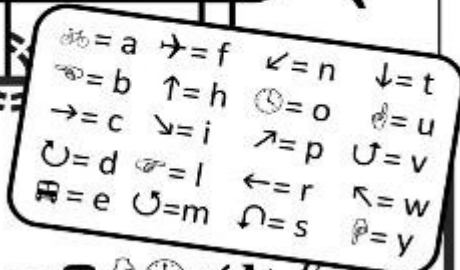


Have you ever been on a long journey?

Where did you go?

How long did it take you to get there?

The Bible reminds us that wherever we travel and wherever we go, God is with us!





Regular Church Activities



Monday	10 am	Parent & Toddlers
	11 am	Kerygma (Coffee Drop-In)
	12:50 pm	Parent & Toddlers
	6.45 pm	'Parksiders' (Social and Fellowship Group - first Monday in the month)
	7 pm	Streetlight Youth Club (Year 7+)
Tuesday	10 am	'Stitch in Time' Needlecraft Group
	6.15 pm	Energize and Re-Energize (Primary School age)
Wednesday	9.45 am	Parent & Toddlers
	8 pm	Midweek Meeting (Small Groups or central meeting)
Thursday	9.30 am	Focus (alternate Thursdays)
	9.30 am	Small Group (alternating with Focus)
	7.30 pm	RBC Music Team
Friday	10:30 am	Small Group for People with Learning Difficulties
	12.30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	12:30 pm	Small Group (Alternate Fridays)
Sunday	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service

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



"Yes" cried the stranger, "I am the Greek you forgot as soon as you left college!"