

# Stockport Sunday School

September 2022 Newsletter 30



Wedding speakers often like to start their address with a touch of humour.

One that stuck in my memory is when the advice to the bridegroom was:

'Always remember, a wife is a great source of consolation in all the problems a bachelor never has.'

While there may be a small element of truth in that statement, the fact is, of course, that either spouse is a great source of comfort to their partner in life's challenges.

The concept of 'consolation' is interesting. It is defined as: 'the comfort received by a person after a loss or disappointment.'

The ability to console is a valuable attribute, but not always valued as much as it should be. It seems to carry a sense of inadequacy - a 'consolation' prize for example.



It is more than sympathy - 'a sharing of sorrow for someone else's misfortune' - and a bit more than 'empathy' - the ability to understand and share a person's situation.

Certainly, the thought that someone else understands your predicament can be a valued source of comfort in difficult times.

On the other hand, we should be wary of claiming that we 'understand', because we are unlikely to know fully how that person is really feeling, the background to their experiences, or what is causing most concern.

I was reminded of this very recently, at a meeting of our immediate neighbours and Stockport Council representatives. It had been called with regard to a severe and continuing problem of flooding of the roadway and adjacent driveways and gardens, and, in some cases, inside the houses. This had been going on for about 18 months, and the Council representatives were endeavouring to show they realised the severity of the problem, and explain what they were doing to resolve it.

Unfortunately, part way through the discussion, the Chairman said to one of the residents, 'I understand how you feel about this.' The first time it passed without comment - when he said it for the third time, several listeners erupted.

'You can't understand - waking up in the night to the sound of rain, and worrying whether the sandbags are holding the water back. Worry about insurance cover and cost; the resale value of our property if a solution isn't found quickly.'



The speaker had inadvertently hit a raw nerve. Things soon calmed down, but it illustrated the hazard of choosing the wrong word when seeking to console.

St Paul writes about consolation at the opening of his second letter to the Corinthians, (NRSV):

'Blessed be God..., the God of all consolation, who consoles us in our afflictions, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction.'

Paul is explaining that our own suffering can be the source of understanding other people's hardships. It can help us respond to them in a meaningful and sensitive way; to offer consolation effectively.

In our present times of crisis, it has particular relevance, - for us, and for those in authority.

There are many who are extremely anxious, in despair even, as living costs escalate so rapidly.

Looking back, the Covid pandemic was a shared experience, which, in many ways, brought people together.

We need that same sense of togetherness as a nation in the days ahead; to provide consolation to the needy by seeking to understand their problems and responding with wisdom and support.

Perhaps, we are asking ourselves, 'Where is God in all this?'

Peter Hall, in his sermon at St George's which was the basis of our service a couple of weeks ago, told the following tale:

'Two Christians were talking at the back of church. One said, 'I really want to ask God why He allows all the poverty and suffering in the world today.'

The other said, 'Have you prayed, and asked Him why He allows it?'

'I'm too scared', the first replied, 'I worry He will ask me the same question.'

Let us not be scared - but be prepared to ask God for guidance.

To ask Him what He wants us to learn from our situation; what to say, or do. Seek to understand, but not assume we know all the answers. Be open to His prompting. Make time to listen to people's problems, and allow them to express their feelings. And thereby, be able to pass on our consolation - God's consolation - to them. And in doing so, perhaps we will feel consoled too.



For beautiful eyes, look for the good in others; for beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness; and for poise, walk with knowledge that you are never alone. - Audrey Hepburn



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

# MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Beryl Manley is organising a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the lounge on September 20<sup>th</sup> as part of the regular Community Coffee Lounge. Cakes and coffee will be on sale. We hope that many of you will come

along and support this worthy cause.

# HARVEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH

We are pleased that our speaker this year will be Sue Shillito who will be making her first visit to the Sunday School.

Once again the harvest gifts will be sent to Wellspring so we would appreciate gifts of produce that they can store rather than fresh fruit and vegetables (i.e. tinned and dried goods).

We will be serving a harvest lunch before the service at 12.30pm. In order that we can cater for this will you please let Margaret Forster or any of the school officials know as soon as possible if you wish to have lunch.



# <u>ANNIVERSARY</u>

This year our Anniversary service will take place on Sunday 26th October, when our previous mayor, Mr Adrian Nottingham, will be speaking. Please invite family and friends to join us for this service.

### SHOE BOXES AND SHOE BOX SERVICE

The Shoe Box service this year will take place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November. If you wish to make up a shoe box, please bring it along for this service. For those who would like to donate individual items to go into shoe boxes, there will be a box in the entrance hall at Sunday School each week where they can be placed. Please invite your family and friends to join us for this service.





#### CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 10.30am - 1.30pm

There will be a raffle, bottle tombola, books, games and jigsaws, crafts, Rosie's stall, cakes/jams and white elephant stall.

Donations to any of the above stalls will be very welcome.

Don and Judith are happy to collect items.

FATHER CHRISTMAS will be here.

Tea, coffee, cakes, bacon baps and toasted teacakes are available



#### THANK YOU

### **LEGACY**

The School has received a legacy from the estate of the late Reverend Bernard Elsdon. Bernard had been a scholar and teacher of the Sunday School until he went into the ministry but always supported the work of the School. We would also like to thank David Young who has donated to us the artifacts of the School that Bernard had collected over many years.



### **DONATION**

Thank you to Jean Norton for her donation to School funds. We are glad to see you back, Jean, we have missed you.

Joyce Sellers

#### STAMPS

Thank you for all the stamps brought to Compass Point. I recently sent a parcel weighing over 1 kilo for which The Leprosy Mission will raise around £15 to £25.



Please bring any stamps, UK and abroad, leaving at least 5mm paper around. They also collect coins and bank notes from any country.

Margaret Forster

The following is the reply from The Leprosy Mission:-

'We made a magnificent £42,000 in from the sales of stamps and collectables last year. All the funds raised from stamps go directly to people affected by leprosy. We thought you may want to hear about a story of someone impacted from your donation. Here's Hasan's story ....



When Hasan was diagnosed with leprosy, his community turned against him and his family. They were forced out of their village, with nowhere to go. But, because of your caring heart, leprosy trained health workers spent time talking to members of the community, dispelling the myths and misinformation which surrounds this feared disease and allowed them to be welcomed back into their community. Because of the support from a

self-help group, Hasan's mother has been able to raise enough money to build their own home.

Without supporters like you, who share your heart for people affected by leprosy, none of this would have been possible. The money raised from the sale of these stamps and other collectables, will cure people of this debilitating disease and restore hope and livelihoods, now and for future generations.

Blessings



### THINKING OF YOU

We know that some of our members and friends have had or are awaiting investigations, treatment and operations and we want them all to know that we are thinking of them and they are in our prayers. For all those who have been unwell, we hope that you are soon feeling better and we look forward to seeing everyone back at Sunday School.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We wish 'Happy Birthday' this month to:-

Cath Brown on 2nd September
Janet Moore on 7<sup>th</sup> September
Garth Higgins on 17<sup>th</sup> September
and

Walter Stead on 3<sup>rd</sup> October Elizabeth Keeling on 6<sup>th</sup> October

#### UPCOMING SERVICES

September 4<sup>th</sup> Beryl Manley

September 11<sup>th</sup> Judith Higgins

September 18<sup>th</sup> HARVEST

Speaker Sue Shillito

September 25<sup>th</sup> Garth Higgins

October 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Stead

October 9<sup>th</sup> Judith Higgins

October 16<sup>th</sup> Garth Higgins

October 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNIVERSARY





# SERVICES



# SUNDAY JULY 3RD 2022

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Judith Higgins remarked on the fact that birds are mentioned in several everyday sayings, like

'A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush',

'Birds of a feather flock together',

'The early bird catches the worm'

and several more.

She asked the members to make a list of as many kinds of birds they could think of that were

mentioned in the Bible. In fact very few! She told us that twenty seven breeds of birds are mentioned in the Bible in 129 verses. The earliest mention is in Genesis chapter 1 verse 20, when on the fifth day of creation, God made the fowl that could fly in the air. The first named birds, also in Genesis, were the raven and the dove, mentioned in the story of Noah and the flood.



We saw pictures of some of the birds mentioned and heard some of their stories. When

Abram sacrificed animals on an altar, including a pigeon and a dove, vultures tried to steal the flesh. Ravens took bread and meat to Elijah and God provided meat in the form of quails to feed the Israelites. Perhaps the most surprising and amusing bird mentioned was the ostrich (Job 30 verse 15).

In the New Testament, Mary and Joseph took a pair of turtle doves and two young pigeons as an offering when they took baby Jesus to the temple. The

dove is used to represent the holy spirit when Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist. Jesus said He wanted to gather Jerusalem under His wing as a hen gathers her chickens. When the cockerel crowed after Jesus' arrest, Peter remembered how Jesus had prophesised that he would deny knowing Him.

There are many more examples of birds in the Bible.

Let us give thanks to God for all the wonders of His creation.

# SUNDAY JULY 10TH 2022



Garth took the service on July  $10^{th}$ , which he told us was 'Sea Sunday'. The second Sunday in July was designated Sea Sunday by the Sailors Society. 90% of what enters the country comes by sea. The Sailors Society looks after sailors worldwide. On the second Sunday in July prayers are offered for all sailors and the dangers they face from storms

at sea. Many sailors spend long periods at sea away from their families. These families are included in the prayers.

In Acts 27, we hear how Paul was shipwrecked after a storm at sea and God supported him in prison.

We all face storms and difficulties in our lives. God doesn't prevent them but gives us the courage and strength to face them.

There was some discussion as to whether the Sailors' Society and Mission to Seamen were two different groups providing somewhere for sailors to go when they landed in foreign parts.

Thank you, Garth, very few of us had heard about Sea Sunday.



Jesus-

Light of the

World

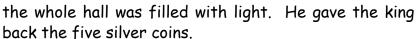
# SUNDAY JULY 17TH 2022

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July, we were pleased to welcome Sheila Hulme from Dialstone Lane Methodist Church as our guest speaker.

She spoke about Christ's light shining in the world. She re-told a traditional Philippine story

about an old king who wanted to pass on his inheritance to one of his two sons. He set them a test. He gave each five coins and told them he wanted each one to fill the large hall before the end of the day. The elder son used his five coins to buy the remains of the sugar beet after it had been pressed and filled up the hall.

The younger son returned with just a candle. After the beet had been removed he placed the candle in the middle of the hall and lit it and



The king made the younger son his heir saying, "Your brother spent his money and filled the hall with rubbish, you filled the hall with light, the very thing that my people needed above all else".

Sheila's benediction:-

In life Jesus Christ offers us all the light of a candle
If we choose to take it sometimes it burns brightly
Sometimes the light is dim and it barely flickers
But it is always there

Give away your light to others who may need it And may the Christ light shine into the lives of all you hold dear.

To wish to pray is a prayer itself.

Georges Bernanos

# SUNDAY JULY 24TH 2022

On Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup>, Judith Curry gave us an interesting illustrated service on three little churches of Wales. Stockport Sunday School could be considered a small church. Our congregation is small but we meet up every week for worship and friendship.

The first was the little chapel of St Trillo. It is only eleven feet by eight feet and seats just six people. It dates back to the sixth century although there had been an older church on the site. St Trillo probably built a wooden cell at the site because there was a spring of drinking water there and this can still be seen under the alter. Water from here was used for centuries for baptisms across the medieval parish of Llandrillo.







The second small church is at Llandbadrig near Cemaes Bay on Anglesey. The site dates back to 441AD. It's name means Church of St Patrick. Some say Bishop Patrick was shipwrecked on Ynys Bodrig (Patrick's Island) and managed to make his way to the mainland where there was a cave and fresh water well and the church was built in thanksgiving for his rescue. The church was restored in 1884 by Henry 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lord Stanley of Alderley. He gave £700 on the condition that the church should contain some elements of his own faith (he had become a Muslim). Red, white and blue glass was used in one window, blue glass in the east window and blue tiles around the Sanctuary. An empty niche was filled with a mosaic of the Good Shepherd. The Muslim faith does not have representations of men, gods or animals. This panel has all the three. The decoration shows outstanding enlightenment together with religious and racial tolerance, a fine example to all cultures and all religious and non-religious peoples today.







On the northern side of Great Orme, Llandudno, is the small church of St Tudno, built in the twelfth century which is open everyday during the season and in summer hold open air services attended by many tourists. St Tudno established his church on the Orme where he found a cave with a spring of water.

Thank you, Judith, for an interesting talk with lovely slides.



# SUNDAY JULY 31<sup>ST</sup> 2022

On Sunday 31st July, we took a fresh look at the well-known parable of the Good Samaritan with the help of Walter Stead.

Jesus told the parable when He was asked the question, "Who is my neighbour?"

A man had been travelling the road between Jerusalem and Jericho, a favourite place for robbers to ambush travellers. The robbers left him injured by the road. When a priest saw him, he passed by on the other side. We would have expected the priest to show compassion and help the man, but perhaps he was obeying the Jewish law of the time. A priest had to remain pure, he could not touch a dead man without going through a long ritual cleansing. A Levite would be an assistant to the priest and

would probably have been subject to similar restrictions.

Companitors and Town did not mi

Samaritans and Jews did not mix and yet Jesus said it was a Samaritan who took compassion on the injured man and paid for his care. Who was the neighbour? The one who had compassion. The Bible teaches that we should not judge lest we be judged, condemn lest we be condemned. It is easy to judge the priest and Levi for keeping to the letter of the law and not showing compassion. Would they have had second thoughts and regret that they had not helped the man.

Elaine Hall told the St George's congregation that she had had a similar experience on her way to church. She was in a hurry as she had to see people before the service. A man approached her asking for change. She would normally have asked his problems. She had none and was in a hurry so said, "No". On reading the Good Samaritan, she wondered if she could have done more, but in the circumstances, she had no choice. We need to work on good habits so that we are not caught on the hop, so that our automatic response is a positive one.



# SUNDAY AUGUST 7TH 2022

Judith Higgins took the service on August 7<sup>th</sup>. After the long spell of unusually hot weather there had been talk of a water shortage and some councils had already declared a hosepipe ban.

If we lived in poorer hot countries when many villages have no piped water supply it would be the job of the women and girls to collect water for the family. This could mean walking some distance to collect water and carry the heavy water container back in the heat. To supply the family could take several journeys and is time consuming and thereafter the girls have no time for education. The water is often contaminated and makes people ill.

In Bible times water was collected from wells and this was again the job of the women. Remember when Jesus sent the disciples ahead to prepare the last supper He told them to follow the man carrying the water jar, an unusual sight.

The reading was from Genesis chapter 29 verses 1 - 10 explaining how the shepherds took the sheep to the well to draw water for them to drink.





In the second reading John chapter 4 from verse 5, Jesus speaks to the Samaritan woman at the well and offers her the water that gives eternal life.

Judith had recently received a leaflet from Water Aid telling the story of Justine Sawadogo from Burkina Faso who had been helped by the charity. Justine liked to live her life by something her grandmother had taught her.

"Never put things above people, consider that everyone in the world is your family. The little you have, or will have, share it with someone more needy than you. All humanity is family" A good rule for us all to follow.

# SUNDAY AUGUST 14TH 2022

When Garth took the service on August 14<sup>th</sup>, his theme was 'friendship'.

He said he considered all the members attending SSS as his friends.

His Bible reading was from Matthew, chapter 10, which gives the names of all Jesus' chosen disciples. Jesus sent them out to preach and to heal.

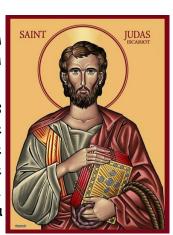
Garth had recently lost two long-standing friends. He had met the first one when they were students together and formed a close friendship. Once they left college, they lived some distance apart but kept in touch by phone and met up two or three times a year.

He met the second friend through work. The two families became friends, spending time together until the friends moved to live down south.

Both friendships lasted for many years.

Walter said friends can change your lives. One friend had invited him to join a cricket club where he made many more friendships which have lasted for years.

Did Jesus' disciples become friends? One of their friends, Judas Iscariot, betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. When he realised the consequences of his actions, he wanted to give back the money. In the discussion that followed, Walter explained that the silver came from the church and the church could not accept it back. It was used to purchase the Potters' field that later became a cemetery.



Was Judas a bad man betraying Jesus to His enemies or was he misguided. Had he expected the Messiah to be more of a military leader, had he hoped that involving the church leaders would force Jesus to be more militant?

Thank you Garth for this service, which led to an interesting discussion.

# SUNDAY AUGUST 21ST 2022

Walter took the Service on 21st August.

The first part was based on a sermon given in St George's Church a week before by Peter Hall, one of their Lay Readers and well known to our Sunday congregation.

The subject of his address had been based on the part of St Luke's record of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount relating to Possessions.

Jesus had told the crowd the parable of the rich man whose land had yielded particularly heavy crops. As a result, he built himself bigger barns to house future harvests, but died before he could enjoy the fruit of his investment. God condemns his foolishness in storing things up for himself, and not using his good fortune to help others.

Jesus goes on to tell His followers "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" and encourages them to sell their possessions and give 🌌 to the poor.



Peter put it simply:-

- spend what you have on yourself, guess where your heart will go
- give it to those in need, your heart will go where God wants it to go.

But giving to the poor is not just about money. It also involves working to eliminate the causes of poverty and the inequalities that exist in society; sharing power and advantage.

Walter went on to consider what this might mean in practical terms.

Has our modern welfare state taken up much of the duties of Jewish law in Jesus' time, - the requirement to give one tenth of your income to the Priests, Levites and the poor. For us in our present time, should it be a percentage of our total income after tax, or after we have paid for our essential needs. Is one person's essential item seen as a luxury by the less well-off. Nor should we forget the value of giving of our time to help people who are struggling to cope. There are no easy answers, and we each have to make our own decisions.

Whatever we decide, let it be driven by a concern for one another; a care for one another; generosity to each other; and not just with the people we know well, but to whoever is our neighbour in Jesus' sight.



# LANCASHIRE HILL SUNDAY SCHOOL



# Recipe

# Raspberry Chocolate Pots

Serves 4

400ml double cream 100g dark chocolate, finely chopped Raspberries Icing sugar, to dust

Heat the double cream in a small pan until steaming.

Put the chocolate in a bowl, pour over the cream and whisk until smooth, and the chocolate has completely melted.

Add 6 raspberries each to the bottom for four ramekins or glasses and pour over the chocolate mixture.

Leave to chill for 2 hours or cover and leave for up to 24 hours.

Serve with more raspberries and a dusting of icing sugar.







## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to:

Pam Bowden - 3rd September

Pat Mellor - 9th September

#### THE WOODLANDS

The weather was stiflingly hot
With windows and doors open wide,
I needed to go for a walk
But was it much cooler outside?





Then more Factor 50 was used, Sunglasses, sunhat were found, I walked down the airless, hot road, Oh, please, can I find shady ground?

Then into the cool woods I walked, The dappled ground, soft, 'neath my feet, With trees and green leaves all around My happiness was quite complete.





The trees made an arch overhead
There was peace and tranquillity there.
I said a small prayer as I walked,
Through these woods God has given us to share.

Margaret Morris Jones

'When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing softly in the trees,

.....

Then sings my soul, my Saviour god to Thee How great Thou art, How great Thou art.'

Praise the Lord in merry song,
Praise Him, praise Him all day long.
But what of me?
I cannot sing –
I have no melody to bring.

But in the Bible, joy of joys,

The Lord says: "Make a joyful noise!"

Author unknown





# SAINTS' DAYS - 19TH SEPT - THEODORE OF TARSUS, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY IN TROUBLED TIMES



Theodore had several things in common with Justin Welby: despite living in troubled times, and in the aftermath of a severe national plague, he made extensive tours of his archbishopric, spoke at many Synods, and worked tirelessly to unite the bickering factions of the Church in England.

But, unlike Justin Welby, Theodore did not start off as English. He was a Greek living quietly in a Roman monastery when in 664, after Archbishop Deusdedit died, the Pope began looking for a new Archbishop of Canterbury. Theodore was recommended as a good candidate, even though he was not even ordained at the time.

The Pope moved quickly: Theodore was ordained deacon, and four months later (when his hair had grown long enough) he was ordained priest and immediately consecrated bishop. Then he was sent, with some companions, off to Canterbury to be Archbishop. It was a very long journey, but Theodore used the weeks on the road well: by the time he arrived in Canterbury he could at least speak English.

Theodore arrived in Britain in May 669, and soon set about strengthening the leadership of the Church through appointing more bishops, improving administration and order, and setting up a yearly meeting for the whole church.

His main challenge was settling the areas with Celtic tradition, and bringing them gently but firmly into the Roman Church. He wisely allowed a blending of Roman and Celtic traditions, which went well, and which began to give a common and unique identity to the church in Britain.

Theodore's legacy was immense: he is regarded as being the principal force behind the common Church in Britain. He was a

gifted theologian and teacher, teaching science, astronomy, law, Latin and Greek. Above all, Theodore was an astute church politician and a visionary leader. Little wonder he is credited with having overseen one of the most fruitful periods of the church in Britain.

#### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

'Peace Day' was established in 1981 by the United Nations. Each year it is observed on  $21^{st}$  September and 'provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.'



#### JUST FOR SMILES



#### Back to school

Young James finished his summer holidays and went back to school. Two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that James was misbehaving. "Wait a minute!" protested his mum. "I had him here for weeks and I never once called YOU when he misbehaved!"

#### Old leaf?

A little boy opened the big Family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mum, look what I found!" the boy called out, turning the leaf over and over.



"What is it, dear?" asked his mother.

With awe in his voice, the young boy ventured: "I think it's Adam's underwear."

#### Deliver us

I had been teaching my four-year-old daughter the Lord's Prayer. Then one evening at bedtime she attempted it solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer. "And lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some e-mail. Amen"



#### When Adam met Eve

The topic for my class was palindromes, which are of course words or sentences that are the same read forward and backward. I asked the question 'What is the first thing Adam said to Eve?' I was expecting 'Madam, I'm Adam', but one student had a better reply: "Wow."

#### TAKEN FROM CHURCH MAGAZINES AND PEW SHEETS

- Miss Charlene Mason sang I will not pass this way again, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- Ladies, don't forget the jumble sale. Now's your chance to get rid of all those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.
- The sermon this morning is entitled 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. The sermon tonight will be: 'Searching for Jesus'.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. Do go along if you can sing at all.
   They need all the help they can get.
- Sadly, Barbara remains in the hospital. She is having trouble sleeping, and so has requested tapes of the minister's sermons.

# PUZZLES

		1	2			3		
	4			5			2	
6					4			1
3						6		
	6						5	
		7						2
7			5					8
	8			1			6	
		5			3	7		



Sudoku

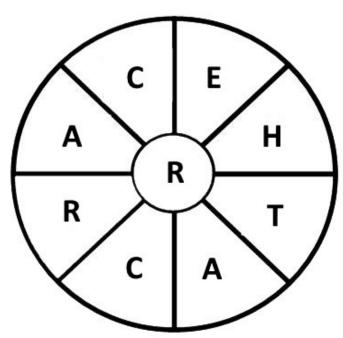


# WORD WHEEL

How many words can you make using the letters in the word wheel?

Words must be four letters or more, each word must contain the central letter R. Plurals and proper nouns are not allowed. There is at least one nine letter word.

Good score 12+ Excellent 18+

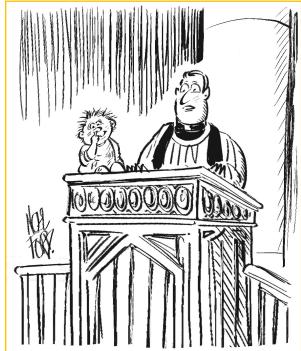




#### WORDSEARCH

Can you find in this grid the words listed below? The words can be found in any direction.

HIUSLEEPINGEEREAPBEHTKNIARGEUWWIBODRVDKNTOUTRLEAEIDTRSHYEHNSNLNGDATITTOGETHERYFASODSMBEVTTGOAODAYWEEVDNDMRDEESHSEOANPILET



"Finally, we're still waiting for someone from last week's Parent & Toddler Group to come and claim this lost property..."

Barn Enemy Good Harvest Let Root Sleeping Bundles Field Grain Heaven Master Seed Sow Weeds Burned Gather Grow Kingdom Reap Servants Together

# THE PARABLE OF THE WEEDS (MATTHEW 13.24-30)

Ever wonder why there is both good and evil allowed in this world? Jesus told a parable that touched on this subject - it is called the Parable of the Weeds. It runs like this: Consider the world as if it were a field where a Farmer has sown good seed. But then an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat. So, when the wheat came up, so did the weeds. What to do? Instead of destroying the weeds, and thereby risking the wheat, the Farmer tells his reapers to wait and let both wheat and weeds grow together until



the harvest. At the harvest he will instruct the reapers to gather up the wheat, but to discard the weeds. So do not despair when evil seems to thrive in this world - there is a reckoning still to come, and justice will be done.

# ANSWERS FROM LAST NEWSLETTER

9	8	7	3	5	2	1	6	4
3	5	1	4	9	6	7	2	8
4	2	6	7	8	1	3	5	9
2	7	4	8	6	3	5	9	1
5	3	9	2	1	4	8	7	6
6	1	8	9	7	5	2	4	3
8	4	3	6	2	7	9	1	5
7	6	5	1	3	9	4	8	2
1	9	2	5	4	8	6	3	7

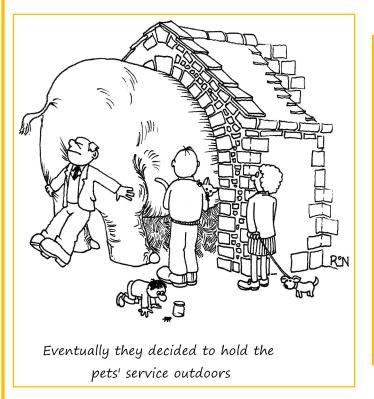


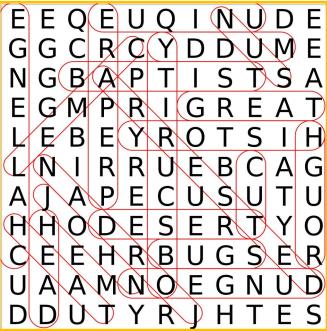
SUDOKU ANSWERS











WORDSEARCH ANSWERS