



The
United
Reformed
Church



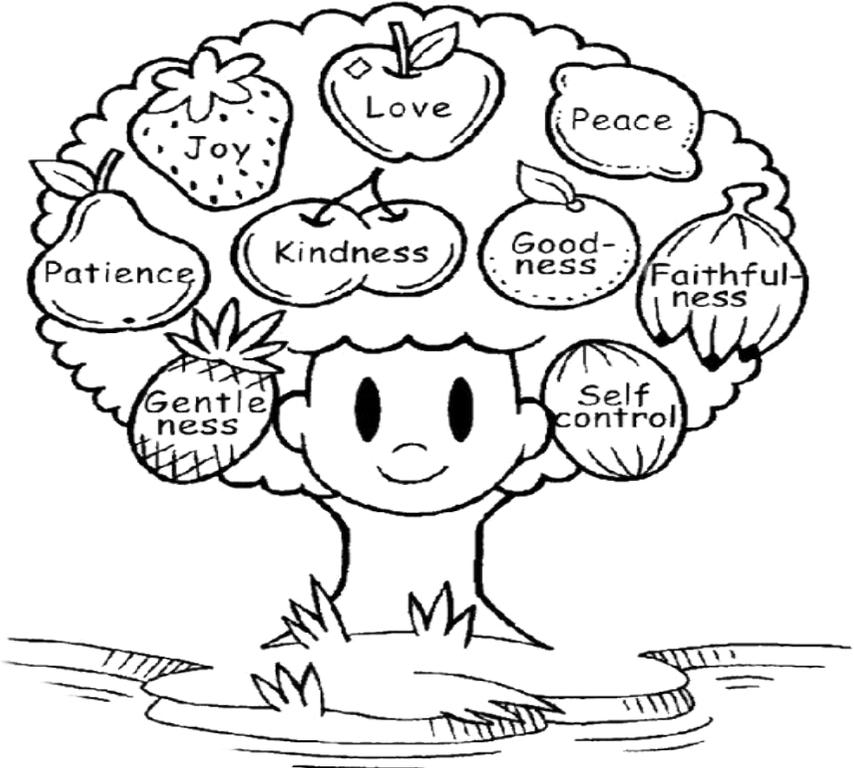
Halifax Group Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence



Fruit Of The Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23



I'm a tree planted by the water

September 2017

Our vision is to know, love, live and share Jesus, for a better world.

Letter From the Manse

What does discipleship mean to you? What is involved in being a disciple?

We are familiar with Jesus' call to "Follow me" to the men on the shores of Lake Galilee but what does that call mean for us today? I have been both inspired and challenged by a book I have recently read, *Holy Habits* by Andrew Roberts a Methodist Minister. In it he explores what that call to discipleship means in the 21st century and how the ten 'holy habits' that, if practiced, can nurture our discipleship.

In describing the faithfulness of discipleship Roberts quotes Bono of U2 "*We don't know where we are going, but we know who we are going with*". He goes on to say of this journey *in understanding discipleship as an adventure it's important to note that active and adventurous are not necessarily physical attributes. Those limited by age or disability can be very active and adventurous in their following of Jesus: spiritually imaginatively and particularly prayerfully.....The need for active adventurous disciples of Jesus is as urgent as ever. There is a broken world in need of healing, good news to be shared and Kingdom work to be done.*

Roberts describes this adventure of discipleship as a *shared journey made personally and collectively in response to the call of Jesus. A journey made in the*

Letter From the Manse

company of the divine community of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and of our fellow disciples gathered by Jesus to be his body on earth today....As we scatter and go to serve where we are sent we are nurtured by and live by the holy habits to which we now turn.

The holy habits are firmly rooted in Acts chapter 2, but the 10 identified by Roberts are not necessarily a closed list. Developing the holy habits creates a life rhythm, supportive of discipleship.

The 0 holy habits explored in the book are not surprising to us and most of them can't be practiced in isolation. The chapters on the individual habits each end with suggestions for reflection and action, along with a biblical passage to reflect on, the latter being included below. You might like to take up the challenge to read these passages answering these questions:

- 1. What do you notice in this passage?*
- 2. What will you do or change in the light of what you have read and noticed?*

Biblical teaching *2 Timothy 3: 16-17*

Fellowship *Romans 12: 9-21*

Breaking of bread *1 Corinthians 11: 23-26*

Prayer *Luke 11: 1-13*

Giving *2 Corinthians 9*

Letter From the Manse

Service *Matthew 25: 31-46*

Eating together *Luke 14: 15-23*

Gladness and generosity *Psalms 100*

Worship *Deuteronomy 6: 4-9*

Making more disciples *Matthew 28: 16-20*

My plan is to read a passage, consider my response to the questions, read the chapter in 'Holy Habits', then reread the biblical passage to see to what degree my answers have changed or developed.

Would anyone be interested in doing the same then coming together for a group discussion, one holy habit at a time?

Acknowledgement – all words in italics are quoted directly from: Roberts, A. Holy Habits, 2016: Malcolm Down Publishing Ltd. ISBN 978-1910786-15-4.



Eco Church is A Rocha UK's award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth. In their belief that caring for God's earth is a necessary part of Christian discipleship, engaging with Christians and churches is at the heart of A Rocha's strategy. Their primary means of such engagement is Eco Church, the new, web-based award scheme designed to motivate and resource churches in establishing caring for God's earth as an integral part of their everyday work and witness. Eco Church has been developed as the successor to Eco-Congregation for churches in England and Wales, and is run by A Rocha UK in partnership with Christian Aid, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, and Tearfund. At the heart of Eco Church is a unique, online survey that enables churches to both record what they are already doing to care for God's earth, and to reflect on what further steps they can take to that end and then act accordingly.

Heath has been registered with Eco Church since January 2016. We are still one of just two registered churches in Halifax, the other being the Minster. Elsewhere in Calderdale St Lukes' at Norland, St Peters' in Sowerby, St Mary's in Luddenden and St Martin's in Brighouse are registered. According to the website, none of these churches has yet achieved an award.

Awards are made at Bronze, Silver or Gold level with a minimum standard needing to be reached in all categories, these being **Worship** and teaching – we have reached Gold level with a score of 83/110! The starting point here

Letter From the Manse

was our agreement to work towards an Eco Church award. Other activity has included services dedicated to environmental themes and ensuring that the Christian call to care for the environment is fairly regularly included in other services and in hymn choices, as well as in our Messy Church themes.

Buildings – we have yet to reach bronze. Our score is 109/525, with 140 being required . Points here include those for having an energy efficient boiler, partial low energy lighting and using environmentally friendly cleaning products.

Land – we have reached 40/75 which is Silver, mainly thanks to the work of the Beavers who use the small manor drive garden to grow vegetables and provide ‘accommodation’ for a variety of insects.

Community and Global – we are at a Bronze score, 85/205, with Silver needing 105. We have communicated with our MP and other organisations on environmental issues, members have been involved in environmental campaigning, we sell and serve Fairtrade products and we are currently promoting Eco Church to other churches!

Lifestyle – **Again we score at Bronze level with 68/160. We promote the personal use and consumption of Fairtrade goods, we share a communal Christmas card and we have recently changed our current and savings accounts to more ethical ones.**

The buildings category is the one we are finding the most challenging, but needing 31 more points to reach Bronze is a good incentive as we will then be able to apply for our Eco Church Bronze Award. We

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may even be able to achieve this by switching to greener energy which is undoubtedly a key aspect of caring for our world. Even if we achieve Bronze, there is still much that we can and should do in all categories, so hopefully we will continue in our Christian discipleship by aiming for Silver.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful endorsement of the United Reformed Churches commitment to caring for God's earth if all the URCs in Halifax, or even Calderdale, were working towards an Eco Church Award? Take a look at www.ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk



Pulpit list

Heath URC, Free School Lane. 10.30am
September 2017

- 3 Mrs Dawn Walker
- 10 Mrs Val Jenkins
- 17 Rev John Jenkinson - Christening
- 24 Rev John Jenkinson – Communion - Fair Trade Stall

Activities in September

Friday 8 September – 11.00am. SAFER – SCAMS and FRAUDS. ‘Our Place’ are hosting a session with the SAFER Project who will be giving an overview of different scams targeting our communities and giving free information packs and advice on how to protect yourself. Why not come along.

Sunday 10 September 12noon – Church Meeting - after morning worship

Tuesday 12 September 2.00pm – Elders Meeting in church

Thursday 14 September – 8.00pm – Thursday Club- Welcome to the new season.

Tuesday 19 September - 10.30am – Community Coffee Club

Sunday 1 October- Harvest Lunch after morning worship

Saturday 7 October - 7.30pm – Simeon Wood in Concert

Weekly Events

Monday

9.30am Toddlers (except Bank Holidays)

2.00pm Sing for Fun – Singing Group

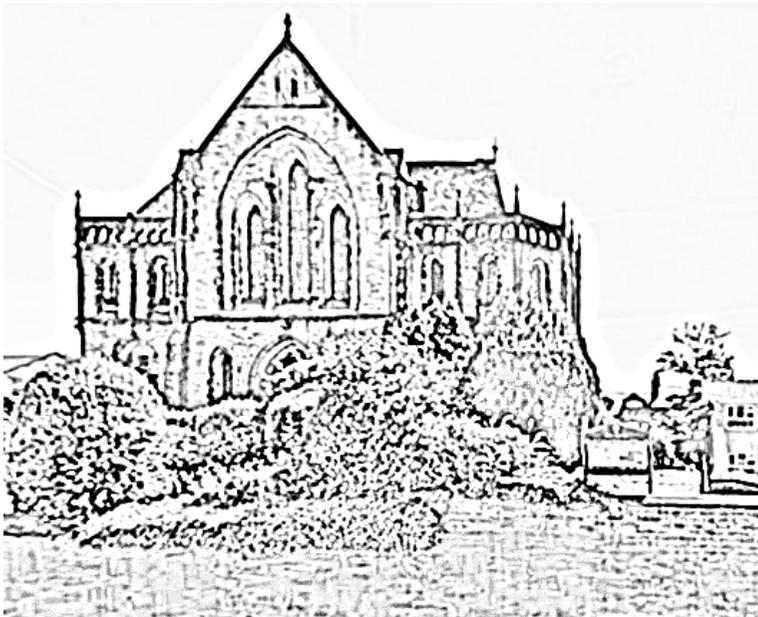
5.45pm Beaver Scouts 5-8yrs
6.30pm Cub Scouts 8-10yrs

Friday

7.00pm Scouts 10-14yrs
7.30pm Explorer Scouts

Appeal for LEGO

At Heath we have a children's table for children who come on Sunday mornings and we would like to replenish it with new ideas. If anyone has some spare LEGO or building blocks we would gratefully receive them. Thank you.



September 2017

Pulpit Supply

Sep. 3 rd	Mrs. Juliet Foster
Sep. 10 th	Mr Alan Jowett
Sep. 17 th	Mr David Truswell
Sep. 24 th	Mr. Peter Fleming

Macmillan Coffee Morning

You will all be aware of the Macmillan Coffee Morning that has been widely advertised on the television. The official date is Friday 29th September but we are able to hold it at any time and circumstances are such that we are going to hold ours on **Saturday 23rd September** 10-30 a.m. until 1-30 p.m. Entrance £2 (50p children) includes a coffee/tea/juice and a cake. A soup and light savouries will be served over the lunch period at a small cost. There will be a stall selling cakes, buns etc. also a stall with bric-a-brac. Contributions to the stalls would be appreciated, see Averil. We are seeking your support for this very well worth cause. Come along, bring your family and friends, let us make this a memorable occasion.

Back to Church Sunday 24th September - Preacher Peter Fleming. Why not invite someone to come along to church with you?

Friendship Hour Wednesdays 2-30 p.m.

NEW HOPE

13th September Quiz - David Truswell

27th September Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela -
Noel Moroney

Fellowship 6th September and 20th September – we will continue looking at the Ten Commandments and their relevance for today. These weeks we will be covering “You shall not murder.” and “Respect your father and mother.”

Sunday Sept. 3rd after morning service, Church Meeting

Tuesday, 26th September at 7-30 p.m. in the Community Hall

Toppers Theatre Group present

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN (By John Godber)

Tickets £8 (Available from New Hope)

The Leprosy Mission - The West Halifax Churches together are holding a fund-raising and information day.

This will be held at St. John's Church on Saturday 7th October. More details will be available later. The Leprosy Mission regional organiser, James Grieg, will be at the event. This is something that as a church we should be supporting, so please book the date now.

This month we celebrate the 9th anniversary of New Hope Church. Nine years ago on the 14th September 2008 two

NEW HOPE

churches came together to form our present church. The Two churches were Park and Highroad Well & Warley. Of course, going a long way back there had been connections between the two churches. Highroad Well was an offshoot from Park in the 19th Century and for many years they flourished in their own right. Warley joined Highroad Well in the 1970's. All the three churches have had their own histories and anniversaries to celebrate, but that is looking back and things cannot go on in the same way for ever and changes have to take place and circumstances were such that it was deemed prudent for the two churches Park and Highroad Well and Warley to come together and that is what we are doing now, we are celebrating the coming together of the two churches nine years ago when we formed the present church. A new church which necessitated a new name to mark a new beginning and thus we became New Hope. That was a memorable occasion and from that beginning we continue to pray that the future is there for us to grasp, to take hold of and to move forward towards the goal that lies ahead for us. But what lies ahead we do not know, for God in his great wisdom has kept the future hidden from our eyes. On Sunday, the 10th September we will be holding our anniversary service which will be led by Alan Jowett and after the service there will be a buffet lunch to which all are invited as we celebrate our nine years together. Book the date now, a good time for fellowship, an opportunity to catch up on all that's happening in our church, in the Group and in the community around the church whilst enjoying good food.

Pulpit Supply

September

- 3rd – Andrew Mitchell
- 10th – Juliet Foster (Communion)
- 17th – Val Jenkins
- 24th – Sue Lees-Wolfenden

**New Providence
Diary**

September

- Friday's – 6.30pm Brownies at New Providence
- Friday's – 6.45pm Boys Brigade & Girls Association at the Carlton Centre
- Tuesday's – 5.00pm – Garden Gang (weather permitting)
- Thursday 7th – 7.30pm Elders Meeting
- Thursday 14th – 7.30pm Secretaries Meeting
- Sunday 17th – 12.45pm Church Meeting
- Monday 25th – 7.30pm Provi Circle
- Thursday 28th – 7.30pm Worship Group Meeting

Boothtown Terriers Fun Day.

The Fun Day was held at the Terriers ground, Ellen Royd at Boothtown. It was a great success with stalls, D.J, Bouncy Castle and inflated sumo wrestling suits and bright sunshine..

A feature was the rugby match between the Boothtown Terriers under 10's sponsored by New Providence, against Boothtown Terriers open age team.

The youngsters weren't afraid to tackle the older team but weren't too rough with them, and could run faster giving them the edge. They could also dodge between the oncoming defenders easily which caused confusion amongst the open age players. However, the open agers did get a little of their own back by defending in two's so that the under 10's attacker with the ball was trapped. It was quite an exciting game with brilliant sportsmanship from both teams and a joy to watch. Unfortunately, no-one seemed to know the eventual score. Well, it was a fun day and everyone who attended had their share of that.

Ken Wolfenden.

Boothtown Terriers Fun Day.



THE
HOMEMAKER'S

PRAYER

Lord, we thank thee for this sink of dirty dishes;
we have good food to eat.

Thank you for this pile of dirty laundry;
we have nice clothes to wear.

Thank you for these unmade beds;
they were comfortable last night.

Thanks for this bathroom, complete with soggy towels,
splattered mirror, and grimy sink.

Thank you for this finger smudged refrigerator
that needs defrosting so badly.

Thank you for this oven that absolutely must be cleaned;
it has baked many good meals over the years.

Our whole family is grateful for that tall grass
that needs to be mowed.

Thanks for that slamming screen door;
the children are healthy and able to run and play.

Lord, the presence of all these chores awaiting me
says that you have richly blessed this family.

I shall do them all gratefully and cheerfully.

Amen

Two Doilies

There once was a man and a woman who had been married for more than 60 years. They talked about everything. They kept no secrets from each other..... except that the old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she cautioned her husband never to open it or ask her about it.

For all these years he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would never recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed it was time that he should know what was in the box.

When he opened it he found two beautifully crocheted doilies and a stack of money totaling over £25,000. He asked her about the unusual contents.

“When we were married”, she said, “my grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was never to argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doily.”

The little old man was so moved, he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box. She had only been angry with him twice in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with joy and happiness.

“Sweetheart,” he said.....”that explains the doilies, but what about all this money? Where did it come from?.

“Oh” she said “that’s the money I made from selling the doilies.

DEAR AUNT MARTHA

Dear Bishop – I've been told you have moved, if there is a chance that you can read this, will you let me have your new address please, I've had a few people wanting to talk with you. Hoping to hear from you soon.

Dear Mr. W... - I'm sorry, but I really must agree with the vicar about this one. You may have been an usher at your church for twenty-five years and the church may have been crowded for such an important occasion as the Bishop coming to preach, but to cram up to twelve people into a pew intended to hold eight is going a little over the top even if your motive was good, i.e. being nearer the font and able to see that much better I also know that the incident provided a suitable practical example to go with the Bishop's sermon on the raising of Lazarus but when two people of the congregation need resuscitation at the same time, it must be considered an exaggeration, don't you agree? And to say Fire Brigade on the telephone when you meant ambulance was unforgivable even if you say the timing was perfect. Well let's face it, the vicar couldn't help knocking the alter candle over in his haste to help, could he? Not with his bad eye anyway Nevertheless, I'm glad it all turned out okay and the bell ringers were rescued before the bell tower burnt down and I do consider the vicar was more than a little uncharitable when he suggested that you should try another religion far removed from the Church of England. Please keep me informed as to when the church will be re-consecrated,

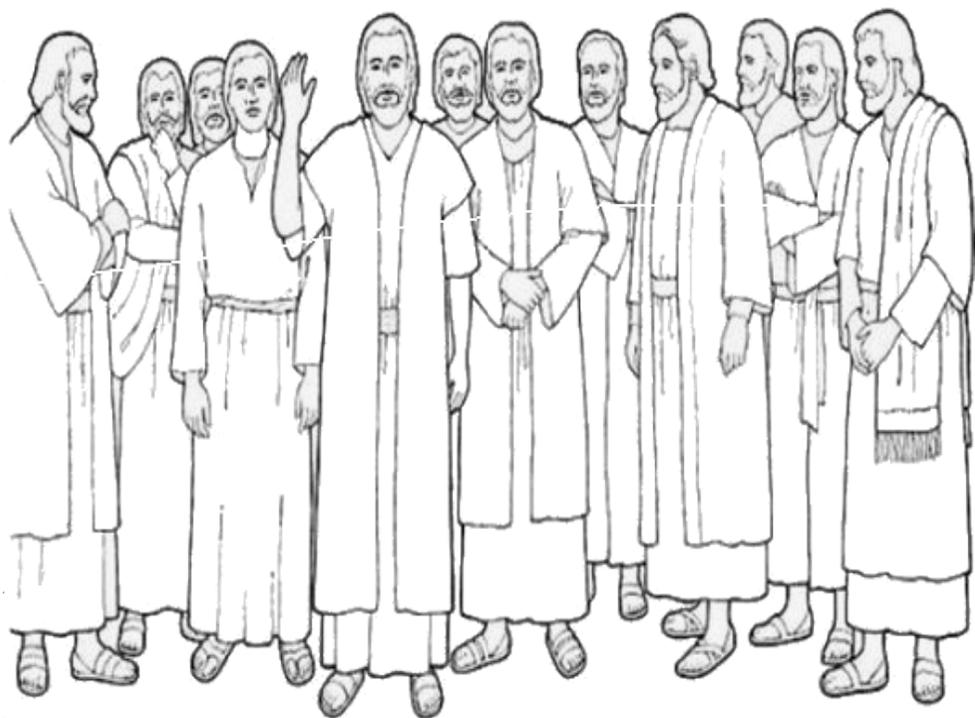
Dear Bishop – Please, please, please send me your new address, so many people have been asking for you. I think they're getting quite worried for your safety because I had such a nice policeman round here the other day and he seemed really concerned about you.

Dear Miss K – (Are you the same Miss K that wrote concerning a certain Archdeacon's wife sitting on your seat). Believe me, I know how you feel, a hot Summer's Sunday morning, a rush to get to church on time and then to find somebody else in your parking place, as you say not for the first time but the third time in as many weeks, and you politely asked them not to park there on both the previous occasions. What is more, I definitely think the owner of the car is bias, just because he's a petrol pump attendant and sold you a can of petrol the day before, doesn't mean to say you purposely set fire to his car. I fully believe you when you say you saw some grass on fire, looked in your boot for water and saw a can and used that to put the fire out (how is the gardener). It is a great pity about the other cars though, but I'm glad yours wasn't touched. By the way who was the 'ranting lunatic' as mentioned in the local paper who set fire to three fire engines, two police cars and the 'Jingle Bells' ice cream van.

Dear Bishop – Thank you so much for your card from Argentina, you must be having a wonderful holiday but you haven't told me where you are going next. By the way, have you seen the diocesan cheque book – they can't find it anywhere and can you tell the Archbishop where you put the Cathedral silver. They can't find it.

The Twelve Disciples

Matthew 10:2-4



**ANDREW - BARTHOLOMEW - JAMES -
JAMES son of ALPHAEUS - JOHN -
JUDAS - MATTHEW - PETER - PHILIP -
SIMON - THADDAEUS - THOMAS**

WORDFIND

The Twelve Disciples

Can you find the names of the twelve disciples?

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

BIBLE CROSSWORD CLUES

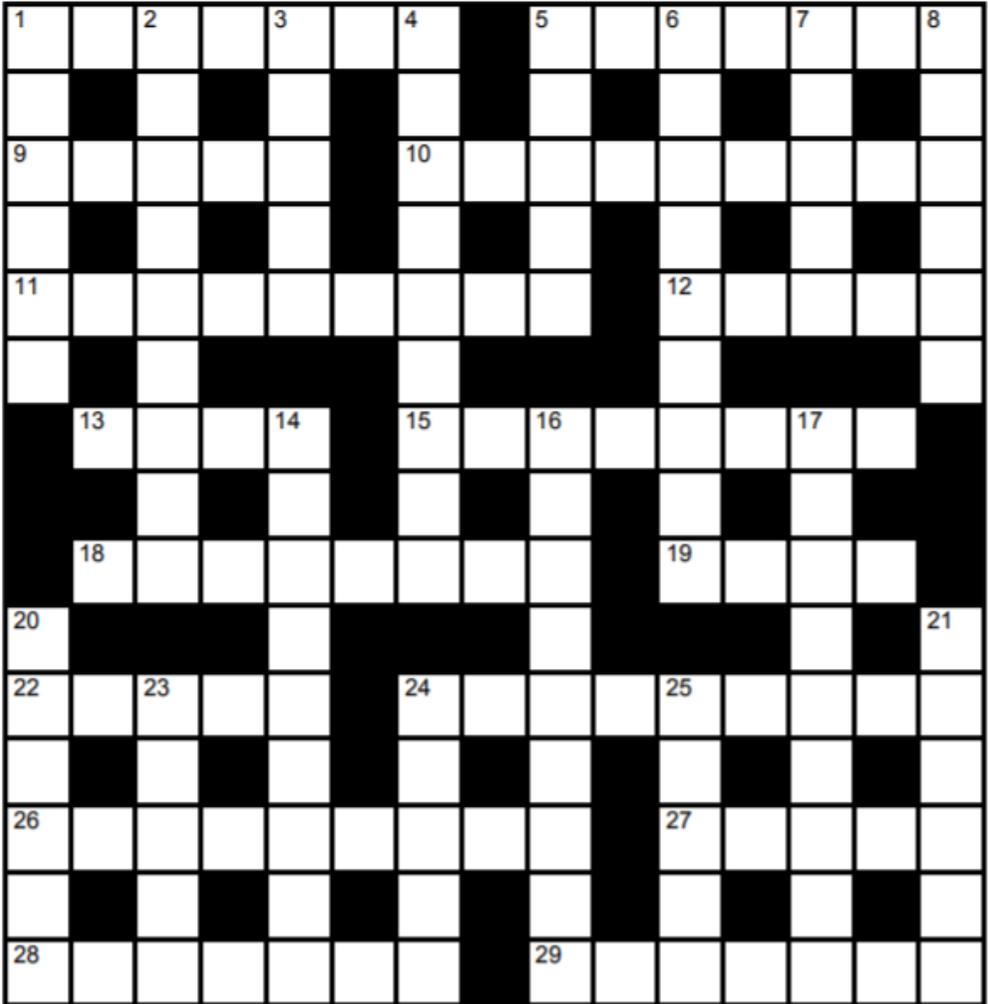
Across

- 1 Wife of Isaac (7)
- 5 Resplendencies (7)
- 9 Stories (5)
- 10 Judges, elders, tax collectors, for example (9)
- 11 Catastrophies (9)
- 12 Father of Ahiam (5)
- 13 Hades (4)
- 15 Eunuch from here was baptised by Philip (8)
- 18 A sound of joy (8)
- 19 Vessel (4)
- 22 Up on high (5)
- 24 First meal of the day (9)
- 26 Hard (9)
- 27 Solomon made a throne out of this (5)
- 28 Furious (7)
- 29 Decorated (7)

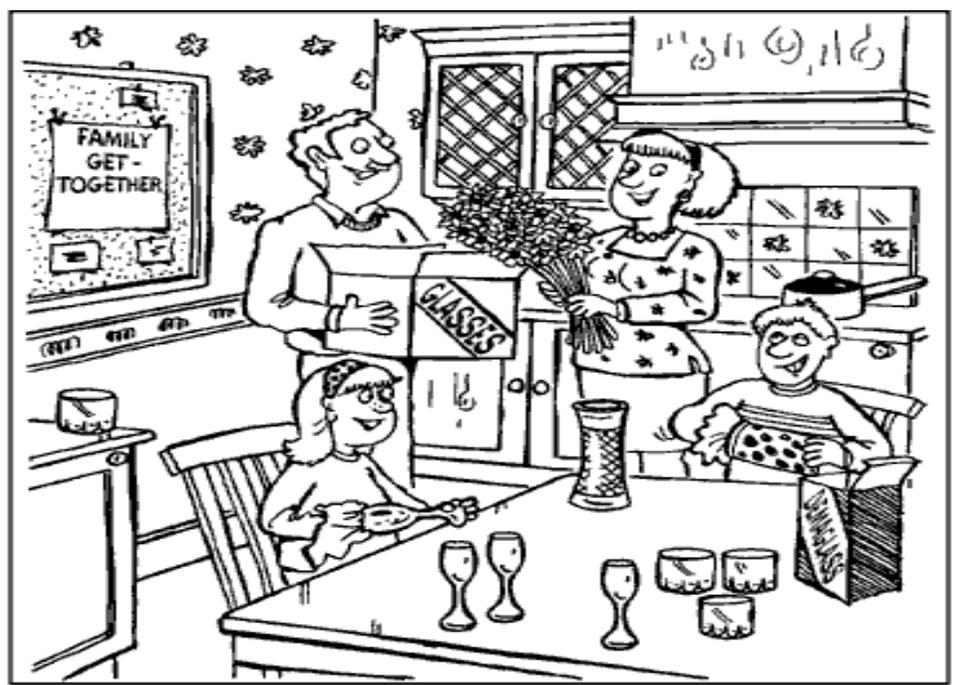
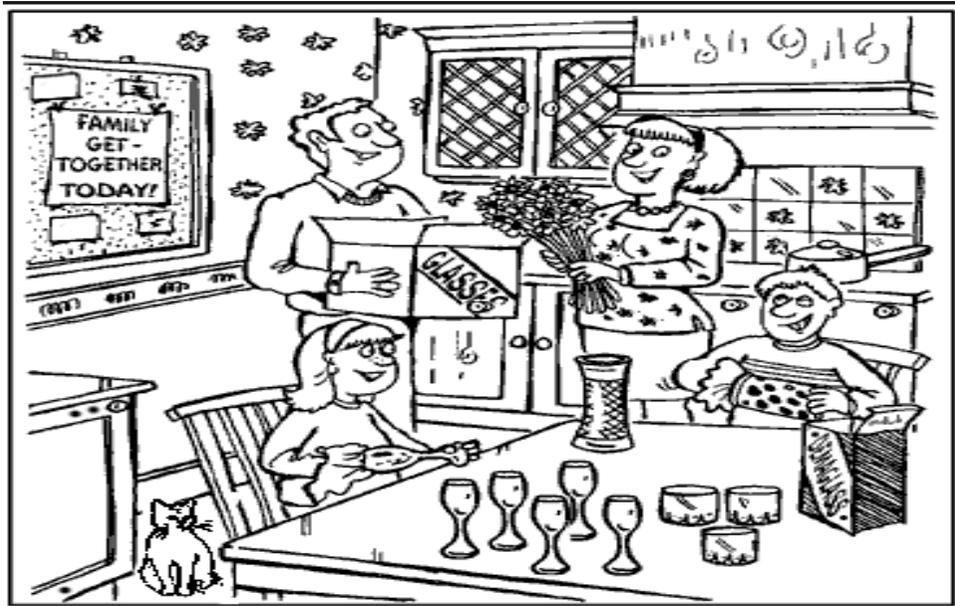
Down

- 1 Repair (6)
- 2 David committed adultery with her (9)
- 3 Barrels (5)
- 4 Propitiation (9)
- 5 Jesus was given three as a child (5)
- 6 Times (9)
- 7 Father of Esau and Jacob (5)
- 8 Killed by Jael (6)
- 14 Heavenly flash (9)
- 16 Reaped (9)
- 17 Copycats (9)
- 20 Horse rider's seat (6)
- 21 Remained (6)
- 23 Tender (5)
- 24 Tied (5)
- 25 Abraham was going to kill his son with this (5)

BIBLE CROSSWORD



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE
CAN YOU FIND AT LEAST 15 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO
PICTURES



Answers

September 2017

Solution



Across: 1 Rebecca, 5 Glories, 9 Myths, 10 Officials, 11 Disasters, 12 Sacar, 13 Hell, 15 Ethiopia, 18 Laughter, 19 Ship, 22 Aloft, 24 Breakfast, 26 Difficult, 27 Ivory, 28 Enraged, 29 Dressed.

Down: 1 Remedy, 2 Bathsheba, 3 Casks, 4 Atonement, 5 Gifts, 6 Occasions, 7 Isaac, 8 Sisera, 14 Lightning, 16 Harvested, 17 Imitators, 20 Saddle, 21 Stayed, 23 Offer, 24 Bound, 25 Knife.

GROUP CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>What's on</u>
Sun. Sep. 3 rd	11.30 am	New Hope	Church Meeting
Thu. Sep. 7 th	7.30 pm	New Providence	Elders Meeting
Fri. Sep. 8 th	11.00 am	Heath	safer-scams & frauds
Sun. Sep. 10 th	10.30 am	New Hope	9 th anniversary celebration
Sun. Sep. 10 th	12 noon	Heath	Church Meeting
Tue. Sep. 12 th	2.00 pm	Heath	Elders meeting in Church
Wed Sep. 13 th	2.30 pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Thu. Sep. 14 th	7.30 pm	New Providence	Secretary's Meeting
Thu. Sep. 14 th	8.00 pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Sun. Sep. 17 th	12.45 pm	New Providence	Church Meeting
Tue Sep. 19 th	10.30 am	Heath	Community Coffee Club
Sat. Sep. 23 rd	10.30 am	New Hope	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Mon Sep. 25 th	7.30 pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Tue. Sep. 26 th	7.30 pm	New Hope	September in the Rain
Wed. Sep. 27 th	2.30 pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Thu. Sep. 28 th	7.30 pm	New Providence	Worship Group Meeting

PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

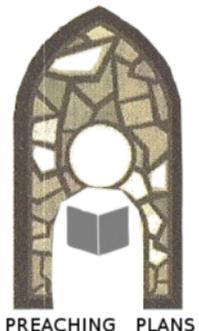
Sep. 3 rd	Mrs. Dawn Walker
Sep. 10 th	Mrs. Val Jenkins
Sep. 17 th	Rev. John Jenkinson
Sep. 24 th	Rev. John Jenkinson

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

Sep. 3 rd	Mrs. Juliet Foster
Sep. 10 th	Mr Alan Jowett
Sep. 17 th	Mr David Truswell
Sep. 24 th	Mr. Peter Fleming

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

Sep. 3 rd	Mr Andrew Mitchell
Sep. 10 th	Mrs. Juliet Foster
Sep. 17 th	Mrs. Val Jenkins
Sep. 24 th	Sue Lees-Wolfenden



← SUNDAY SCHOOL



"That 'Jonah' story sounded fishy to me!"



Useful Numbers

Mrs J Simmons (Heath)	365355
Mr D Truswell (New Hope)	883908
Mrs S Wolfenden (New Providence)	244402
Heath URC.	www.heathchurchhalifax.org.uk
Providence URC.	www.providencechurchovenenden.org.uk
URC web site:	www.urch.org.uk
Yorkshire Synod	www.urchyorkshire.org.uk
Robert Brook (editor)	robertbrook@sky.com 07811535832

■■■■■■■■■■ October Deadline ■■■■■■■■■■

All contribution need to be in by **Friday 15th September** please. These can be either handed in to your church reps or stop press direct to the editor at: **robertbrook@sky.com**

Late submissions may not be inserted.

Thank you.