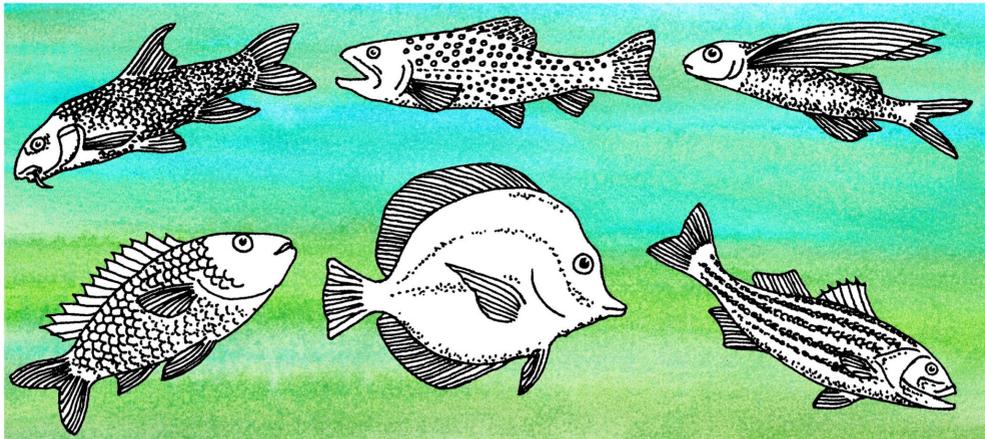
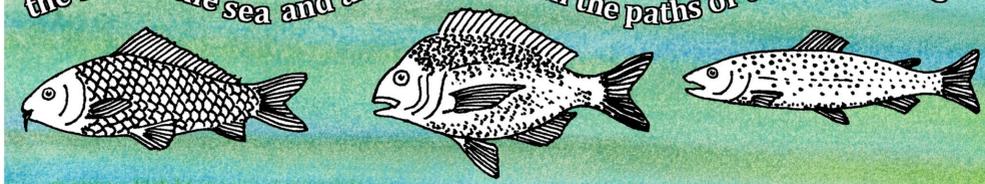


Trinity Methodist Church,
Loughborough
July / August 2022

Trinity Link



*You, God, made humans responsible for your handiwork..
the fish in the sea and all that swims in the paths of the sea. Ps 8:8*



*God blessed humans and told them...
"You are responsible for the fish of the sea.."* Gen 1:28



Pastoral Letter

There is growing sense of anticipation in the manse garden. Many of you will know that during the lockdown in 2021 I discovered a hedgehog hibernating in the garden under a pile of leaves. I felt sorry for it and built a sturdy, waterproof and safe house which I felt was a much better place for it to live. I don't know how much it has been used over the last year, but I recently set up a wildlife camera outside the entrance, to give me an idea of whether it was being used or not. Last week, on three separate occasions, it has filmed a hedgehog with nesting material in its mouth entering the box. We are now just waiting and hoping that we might see a little family emerging one long summer evening.



We are told that the number of hedgehogs in the wild has significantly reduced over the past years for a variety of reasons: loss of habitat; too many fences; not enough hedges. It makes sense when you think about the name of the creature, they are not called 'fencehogs'! The number of roads also doesn't help and coming into conflict with domestic animals can leave a hedgehog traumatised.

We all like to do what we can to help wildlife in our gardens, or supporting conservation charities. We know that our fragile world needs all the support that we can give it. I wonder then, how do we view the church that we belong to? What changes have you noticed over the years? Is it how you would really like it to be?

We all have a part to play in the life of our church, we all have a role, not just in the day to day, but in its future too. We all know that the church is the people, the building being just a convenient place to meet, from which we go out in mission to the world. Being together as church, the body of Christ, is a healthy way of being. It is how we exercise, feed and grow our faith. It is also the way in which we can nurture those who are new, as we look to pass on what we have received.

There is a sense in which the Christian has almost become an endangered species, or is on the way to becoming one. We cannot take the church for granted, just because it feels like to has always been here doesn't mean that it will be. As we continue to recover and emerge from two unbelievably difficult years, can we commit ourselves, not simply to going back to how we were, but to being a church that believes it has a future and working to do all that we can to shape that future today?

The hedgehog has not hung around in the manse garden because of the quality of the home I built for it, but because I put food and water out and I make sure there a number of gaps in the fences for it to roam free. I think I have offered it all that it needs to be successful. What can you do to add to the success of your church?

I hope you have a peaceful summer, that you find rest for body and soul and that you may discover the deep joy of knowing you are held in the eternal embrace of our loving God.

Peace and love,

Andrew

My trip to the ABBA arena

My journey to see ABBA started way back on the 6th of September when tickets went on sale for this unique show.

ABBA were going to perform the songs in a studio in outfits containing sensors for the computer cameras to pick up. These images were then to be transferred onto what was to be known as ABBAatars, life-like images projected onto the stage in a purpose built arena.

I couldn't squash my excitement. I had been an ABBA fan since the 70s even when they went out of fashion for a bit. I'd been to see Mama Mia at Nottingham and my ears always pricked up when the name was mentioned.

I booked the 3pm show, so we were able to make it a day trip.

We arrived at Loughborough station for the 9:15am train to London. In true Emma style, that day turned out to be the play off finals at Wembley and Nottingham Forest was playing.

The train came and there was no room for any of us waiting at Loughborough to get on. I was gutted and the lovely platform worker that morning was not hopeful that we would get on the next one. I was so upset. When the 9:45am turned up he jumped on the train and luckily he managed to squeeze us on and squeeze is no exaggeration. Sardines would be the best way to describe it. And the nearest loo was out of order, so when the need arose I had to balance, hobble and grab seats, tables and people through the next carriage to the next toilet. When I got there, there was a queue!! But the lovely people queueing allowed me to jump the queue and go next. I then had to repeat the journey. Although crowded, the people on the train were a happy band of supporters that we shared our journey with.



When we got to London, we met up with Alex and new Dan, her boyfriend. We then found out that several roads en-route to the arena were closed due to a cycling event.

But we eventually got there. Had lunch, left Ian and Dan to their own devices and entered the arena, where we were greeted before we even got in by staff waiting for the disabled concert goers and shown straight to our seats.

The concert was amazing, the ABBAstars were extremely good, the music was fantastic and I at least had a brilliant time singing along to all the golden oldies, and 2 of their new songs.

The light effects and technology were awe inspiring. Even if you're not into ABBA I think the spectacle would have had you engrossed.

90 Minutes later and a good amount of seated / leaning dancing later and it was done.

The journey back was a lot easier, We managed to beat the returning fans and the train ride home was far less stressful.

It was a fantastic day - in the end. Helped by staff at various railway stations, the crew at the venue and of course the unerring patience of Ian helping me to achieve one of my wacky projects.

During my life ABBA the group has been important to me, but during adulthood ABBA father has been far more regularly in my consciousness. I love the way my passion for ABBA grew into my passion for the father, God. It was undoubtedly his presence within the people around me on the 29th May that allowed me to attend something that couldn't even have been dreamt about until recently.

I thank God and ABBA for the music. A day I certainly won't forget. I highly recommend it, but not on Wembley days.

Emma Lowe

Sunday Single Lunch.

Do you remember these get togethers before lockdown?
Are you interested in them starting again? or joining for the first time.

We meet once a month on the third Sunday, unless it clashes with other special events, after morning worship, for those able to attend and go out for lunch at a local restaurant, never hopefully to the same place twice.

Details of the venue are sent out and you book a week in advance so that transport/booking confirming numbers can be made.

Transport is available for those who do not drive and to save on too many cars travelling to the same place.

If you would like to know more, or ask questions, please contact me via email at shepherd35@btinternet.com, telephone landline 01509 266487 or mobile 07719715618.

If it is a definite YES, just let me have your details for contacting you direct, including address/email/phone numbers.

Thank you and I hope we can meet up again soon, perhaps September?

Enid.

LINK Deadlines

Thank you for all the wonderful submissions to the LINK magazine, please keep them coming.

The deadline for September edition is August 15th

Articles can be emailed to Trinitylink1@gmail.com or elizlomax@gmail.com or delivered to the manse.

I'm looking forward to reading all of your articles, please make sure you get them in on time!

Many thanks, Liz



GRUB CLUB

Grub club is a summer holiday group that provides a 3 course meal and activities to Primary aged children and their families.

JOIN US

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 11am - 2Pm

Between 18th July - 11th August
(Runs for 4 weeks)

United Reformed Church,
Fredrick St. Loughborough. LE11 3BH

Admission only available for primary aged children and their families who are in receipt of free school meals or are experiencing hardship. No booking/referral necessary.
Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times

In Partnership with



'Show me your faith apart from your works and I will show you my faith by my works'. James 2: 14

In 2018 our Loughborough Catholic Social Group met to review our work and pray for guidance on where to best focus our efforts. As a result of one member's account of her professional work with families, we decided to do what we could to alleviate the hunger gap for disadvantaged children from local schools during school holidays. And so, Grub Club was born. For two summers and occasional other school holidays we provided lunchtime hot food and activities for children and their families. We communicated with 13 local primary school headteachers to help us identify children and families who could benefit. We provided a free three course meal and offered a range of activities: games, crafts, reading, dance, sport, for three hours, three days a week. We were fortunate in benefitting from parishioner donations and offers of help came in from volunteers aged 18 to 80, wonderfully skilled and generous with their time. We managed to organise ourselves and get all the relevant training done just in time for the start of the holidays. The Spirit was definitely in the driving seat!

During the first summer we fed children, family members and all volunteers, serving 654 meals in total. We never knew how many to expect, a booking system never worked, but, like the feeding of the 5000, the food

seemed to stretch, and the supermarket was close by. The benefits went beyond the obvious ones of feeding and entertaining children. Church members previously on nodding terms got to know one another. Sixth-formers from two local schools came to play with the children. People suggested other initiatives, including a winter Cosy Coat collection and a day out for the children. Parents and carers started to help with the tasks and got to know one another. A community was born.

Then Covid came and stopped our activities. Nearly three years on we are restarting. You will recognise how the need to feed families is greater this time around. New venue - United Reform Church on Frederick Street. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 18 July to 11 August, 11am to 2pm. We have 30+ volunteers so far and are almost ready with compliance checks and finance in place. Please pray for us and the families.

Catherine Brady, Grub Club Chair.

catherinemarybrady@gmail.com



Poster Artwork credit to The bridge

Gemma Skevington

Food Poverty Development Officer
Charnwood Food Poverty Group

Number: 07720 680473

Email: gemma.skevington@thebridge-eastmidlands.org.uk

The Bridge (East Midlands), John Storer House, Ward's End, Loughborough LE11 3HA

Main Tel: 01509260500 Freephone 08000385964

Company No. 03114996 Charity No. 1050596



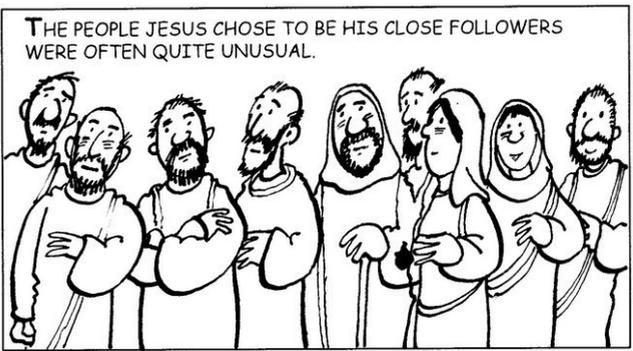
DONATE NOW

www.thebridge-eastmidlands.org.uk

The bridge

Preventing & overcoming homelessness together

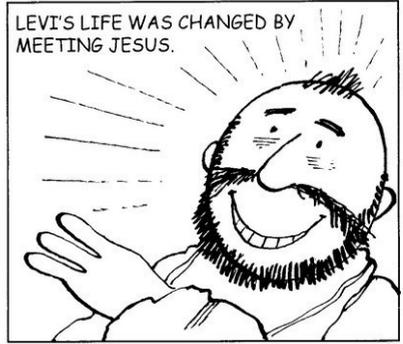
The Doctor and the Sick



THE PEOPLE JESUS CHOSE TO BE HIS CLOSE FOLLOWERS WERE OFTEN QUITE UNUSUAL.



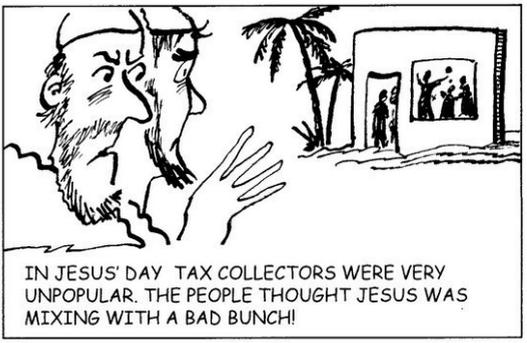
ONCE JESUS STOPPED BY A TAX-COLLECTOR'S OFFICE AND SPOKE TO A MAN CALLED 'LEVI'.



LEVI'S LIFE WAS CHANGED BY MEETING JESUS.



LEVI WANTED ALL HIS FRIENDS TO MEET JESUS TOO, SO HE CALLED A BIG PARTY FOR HIS TAX COLLECTOR FRIENDS



IN JESUS' DAY TAX COLLECTORS WERE VERY UNPOPULAR. THE PEOPLE THOUGHT JESUS WAS MIXING WITH A BAD BUNCH!

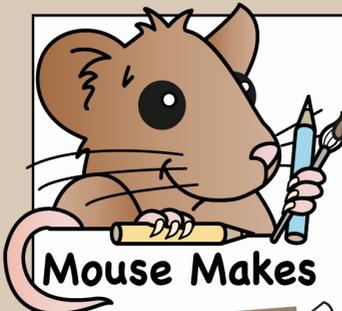


...BUT I AM HERE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY!



SURELY IT IS THE UNWELL PERSON WHO NEEDS THE DOCTOR - NOT THE WELL?!

see Luke 5:27-32



Mouse Makes

Cross out all the X to find the bible verse:

NXOXWXTXHXEREXEA
 XRXEXMXANXYOXT
 XHXEXRXTXHXIXNXGX
 SXTXHXAXTXJXEXSXU
 XSXDIXDX.WXEXRXEXE
 XVXEXRXYXONXEXOXFX
 TXHXEXMXTXOXBEXW
 XRXIXTXTEXNX,IXSXU
 XPXPXOXSXETHXAXTX
 TXHXEXWXOXRXLXDXI
 TXSXEXLXFXCXOXUXLD
 XNXOXTXCXOXNXTXAI
 XNXTXHXEXBOXOKXS
 TXHXAXTXWXOXULX
 DBXEXWXRXIXTXTEXEN
 X.JXOXHXNX2X1X:2X5X

What did Jesus turn water into?
 John 2:1-11

Who's mother-in-law did Jesus heal?
 Matthew 8:14-15

How did Jesus get out to the disciples in the boat?
 Matthew 14:22-27

Who did Jesus raise from the dead?
 John 11:38-44

How long had the woman at the synagogue been disabled?
 years

What did she do after she was healed?
 Luke 13:10-13

Who did Jesus heal when his ear was cut off?
 Luke 22:47-51

DID YOU KNOW?
 Jesus fed thousands of people from a few loaves and fish, ... not once but twice!

READ 
Matthew 14:13-21
 AND
Matthew 15:32-39

In each story...
 How many loaves and how many fish did Jesus have?

How many people were fed?

How many baskets of broken pieces were left over?

DID YOU KNOW?
 There are over

37

miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels.

How many of them do you know?

Find these words in the word search

- JESUS • MIRACLE
- DEAF • HEAR • BLIND • SEE
- PARALYSED • WALK • SICK
- HEALED • DEAD • RAISED
- MUTE • SPEAK • DEMONS
- CAST OUT • STORM
- CALMED • WATER • WINE
- FISH • MULTIPLIED

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

Annual Church Meeting

11th September 11am

Your Church * Have your say * You decide

We have not held our annual church meeting for two years, the church council has taken the decision that, as we are now able to meet indoors in greater numbers, we will hold it on **September 11th 2022** at 11am after our morning service which will be at 10am.

It would be good to strengthen the stewards' team and lighten their load. Please pray and consider if this is a role that God might be calling you to. It would also be helpful to have two more representatives to the church council from the annual church meeting. Please speak to one of the church stewards if you would like to know more about either of these roles.

If there are any matters that you would like to bring to the meeting for discussion with the wider church, please let Andrew or Bobby know beforehand.

Our main focus for the meeting will be to consider whether we register Trinity for same sex marriage. The final decision will be made by the church council, but it is important that they have a clear understanding of the wishes of the whole church before deciding. The decision to be considered is whether we do or do not want to register/make the premises available for same sex weddings. What the minister chooses to do is a matter for them and is not part of this meeting.

It will be good for all of us to meet together after such a long time, for our time of 'fellowship and mutual counsel'. I do hope that as many people as possible will be able to join us.

Andrew.

Blue Bells and Wild Garlic – a Scottish Pilgrimage by Elizabeth Marriott

During May I was fortunate to be able to take part in the Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) Scottish Pilgrimage, walking with St Enoch, St Mungo and St Ninian.

***“Following the rivers, walking ancient paths,
*Kentigern our guide, Ninian our destination,
glimmer of hidden light on sacred ground.
May peace be in our steps, meditation in our rest,
as all creation breathes the mystery.”
(Donald Smith, A Pilgrim Guide to Scotland)***

(*Kenntigen is the name given to St Mungo at his birth.)

Our Pilgrimage commenced as we met in the Wild Olivetree Café, based in a Glasgow city centre church, where they have a mission with the Homeless of the City. We were



a group of 12 Methodist women, only a few of whom I was acquainted with before that Monday afternoon. Our leaders were Jill Baker and Gillian Womersley, both of who had held Executive roles in MWiB. After our introductions and opening devotions we left the café and visited the Homeless Jesus sculpture to the rear of the Church. We then walked to our hotel for the next two evenings. After checking in, a welcome cuppa and depositing our packs, we set off for the first of our walks around Glasgow, being introduced to St Enoch in the square that bears her name. Our walk also took in the Peoples Palace, Terracotta Fountain (a monument to Empire), and the Carpet Factory in Green Park. Then on to St Andrew’s Catholic Cathedral, with its impressive mirrors and fountain a great magnet for the photographer in me. We all had fun trying to take photos without getting ourselves in the image.

Tuesday morning was a little grey and overcast, as we had our devotions beneath the statues of Prudence and Adventure. We set off back across St Enoch's square towards our first port of call for the day St George's Square and a visit to the Glasgow City Chambers, where we found the mural of St Mungo, believed to be the founder of Glasgow. After this we walked up to the Necropolis with its splendid views over the City and many famous and not so famous people among those interred there. We then visited St Mungo's Cathedral where his body is interred. For lunch we were hosted by Woodbrooke Methodist church; they are no strangers to hospitality having entertained people visiting the COP26 Conference previously.

Silence is part of pilgrimage and following our lunch we entered a time of silence as we walked to Kelvin Grove gallery and museum, where we spent time with various exhibits that appealed to our individual tastes, from Dali's Painting to Rennie Mackintosh's furniture. Our final destination for the day was the Govan Stones, one of the oldest sites of worship in Glasgow.

Wednesday brought a change of scene. Taking the train to Troon, we had wall to wall sunshine and walking along the beach towards Ayr was very refreshing, especially as I had not seen the sea for three years. Our time of silence provided us with a time to meditate on the sights and sounds around us, listening to the crash of the waves on the sea wall as the tide reached its high point. After a welcome ice cream in Ayr we took the train to Stranraer for our overnight stop.

Thursday again dawned bright and sunny; this was to be our longest day of walking, about 12 miles, following the Southern Uplands way from Castle Kennedy to Glenluce. The terrain was mixed; mainly footpaths and some ups and downs. We had encounters



with mud and needed to help each other find a way through, with one of our number ending up on her backside in the mud. We spotted a wonderful variety of wild flowers and birds, including the beautiful Fairy Glen full of bluebells and wild garlic. The sunlight added to the magnificence of the countryside, God is good. From Glenluce we took the bus to Newton Stewart for our overnight stop.

Friday was the day we reached the Spiritual Centre of our pilgrimage, After a short bus journey we joined the coastal path which took us to the beach and St Ninians Cave. Having shared a time of worship we explored the beach and launched our coracles of promise (walnut shells) on to the sea. As I stood in the cave and looked out to sea, I felt the peace and prayers of all those who had been there before me, adding my prayers to them for those who will follow me.



From the beach we followed the narrow, steep coastal path in what was now quite a stiff breeze and walked amongst yet more wild-flowers towards the Isle of Whithorn with its lighthouse and St Ninian's Chapel. I found the Cairn of Witness quite moving, thinking of all those who had placed their stones on the cairn, quite an impressive mound.

After a bus journey back to Newton Stewart and a welcome meal, we held our penultimate devotions and shared some of what the journey had meant for us. Our final devotions were to be just prior to our departure for Dumfries on Saturday morning. Leaving Newton Stewart we were 10, finally going our separate ways from Dumfries railway station. I travelled to Paisley for an overnight stop before boarding my plane back to Berlin on Sunday morning.

Making a physical pilgrimage is for me a time of spiritual renewal. I hope by sharing it with others, it will help them on their spiritual journey too.

Methodism 250

To celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the first
Methodist Chapel in Loughborough in 1772
we are holding

**a Celebration Tea
followed by a Service
at Wymeswold Methodist Chapel**
(Our oldest surviving Chapel).

**On Sunday 10th July
at 4pm**

AS part of the Celebration we aim to produce a booklet about
Methodism in Loughborough and the Circuit.

To do this we need your help, we need:

**Photographs. Your Stories. Information about People, Events,
what your chapel did for the local community and is still doing.**

Please send what you can to Philip Thornborow, Karen Ette,

Bobby Peach, or Chris Hill.

Many thanks.

A view from the Lifeboat

The Secret Diary of Granville Mercy
aged 69¼



Lichfield

Whitby Lifeboats →



On Saturday 21st May 2022 I joined members of the Loughborough Free Church choir, as a supporter, as they joined other choirs from around the country for the In Harmony (formerly The Free Church Choir Union) 94th Festival at Lichfield Cathedral. This is a bi-annual event. The theme this year was “Unity”. It should have been held in October 2021 but due to Covid-19 had to be postponed.

During the afternoon whilst singing practice was happening, I recorded my time spent in Lichfield, in pictures.

↑ It was such a lovely day with the sun shining.

Lichfield Cathedral with its three spires.

Walking inside the Cathedral I came across a series of paintings titled Stations of the Cross “The Resurrection” by Rob Floyd.

→ Jesus appears in Galilee.

(For more information on Stations of the Cross “The Resurrection” by Rob Floyd, you can visit his website.)





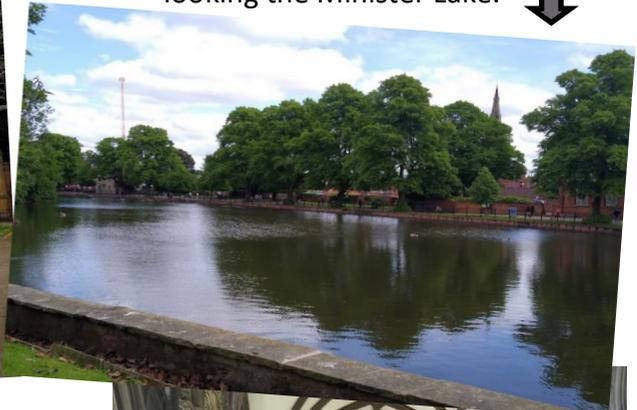
The road to Emmaus.



Unfortunately, my phone camera doesn't do the art work justice.



The Park overlooking the Minister Lake.



In the park near to the Cathedral, seen in the background.

A number of weddings took place in the Register Office opposite, this small park became a backdrop for wedding photographs.

I sat for some time reading my book as I also did in a coffee shop further in the city.

Baton raised! The Free Church Choir of 130 singers, led an uplifting service.

Granville



A Summer Quiz for you—Enjoy!

Compiled by Avril Corbett and used with permission
Answers in September's edition of the LINK

- 1 In the UK, Coco found a clock (6)
- 2 Former PM has a distressing holiday (6)
- 3 The annual great day out for UK punters (5 8)
- 4 The month for romance in this capital city (5 2 5)
- 5 Kene claims mixture makes a tea-time treat (6 4)
- 6 Dance the Mambo in cherry pink anddress (5 7 5)
- 7 Caesar warily upsets side before little women (4 2 5)
- 8 Today, Uncle Larry is presenting slides from Amsterdam. Capital! (6)
- 9 It takes an hour, annually, to change this (7 6 4)
- 10 A perfect day to watch Mama Mia with someone special (9 6)
- 11 Lingerie for a bovine grows in the meadows (7)
- 12 Traditionally the monarch gives alms to pensioners today (6 8)
- 13 A horsey youngster filled a third of the yard with daisies (9)
- 14 At first these lively animals may be springing about (5)
- 15 The queen followed the direction to find the Flopsies (6 7)
- 16 Cockney Pete's give and take is flipping tasty (7)
- 17 A feline family hangs on branches in the spring (6)
- 18 Demure national emblem adorning the gardens (9)
- 19 Part of the Great Bear is trundling across the land (3 6)
- 20 After a slight change, the Cornish duchess blooms (8)

- 21 Angry cakes are a scorcher (3 5 4)
- 22 UK's least populated city celebrates its patron (2 5'1 3)
- 23 Cut back on the dried fruit for a better outcome (5)
- 24 They're proof that froggy has been a-woosing (8)
- 25 Did pilgrims disembark this ship at rocky Plymouth? (7)
- 26 Hiding on a lever, Ethan found a youngster (7)
- 27 NYC turns ancestral green and parties (2 7'1 3)
- 28 It's not tenable changing this Celtic festival to summer (7)
- 29 Frightening the lawn achieves good results (10)
- 30 Marching bands are brassed off at Saddleworth Moor today (4 6)



Saturday Coffee Mornings 10-12am

- JULY 2nd** 2-4pm **Rearranged— if the weather allows** Emma and Ian Lowe are holding an open garden in aid of the Trussell Trust. at 17 Grasmere Road, Loughborough LE11 2ST,
- JULY 9th** 10-12am BB are putting on the coffee morning at Trinity
- JULY 16th** 10-12am in the garden of Yvonne and Brian Relf
- AUGUST 6th** 10-12am in the garden of Pam and Nigel Cox
- AUGUST 20th** 10-12am in the garden of Enid Shepherd

Please sign the list in the vestibule or let Rachel Thorpe know if you can help with serving coffee on Saturday mornings, or on Sundays after the service. **Without volunteers coffee will not happen.** Many thanks.

Trinity's Worship during July / August 2022

In the Building

July 2022

3rd	9.15am	Rev Andrew Lomax—Holy Communion
	10.45am	Liz Newton
10th	10.45am	Eleri Bristow
17th	10.45am	Local arrangement
24th	10.30am	Services at Quorn United Church or East Leake
31st	10.45am	Rev Mike Lees— Holy Communion

August 2022

7th	9.15am	Rev Andrew Lomax—Holy Communion
	10.45am	Roger Latham
14th	10.45am	Rev Andrew Lomax
21st	10.45am	Colin Lamb
28th	10.45am	Circuit Service at Christchurch, Shepshed.

12th Church / Trinity Methodist Church Facebook Page

The live streaming of services through the 12th Church and the Trinity Methodist Church Facebook site at 10.45am every Sunday morning,

<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityMethodistChurchCentre>

<https://www.facebook.com/TwelfthChurch/>

July 2022

3rd	Rob Newton
10th	Adrian Speight
17th	Rev Andrew Lomax
24th	Emma Lowe
31st	Rev Sandra Marshall

August 2022

7th	Live from Trinity
14th	Chris Watkins
21st	Eleri Bristow
28th	Granville Mercy