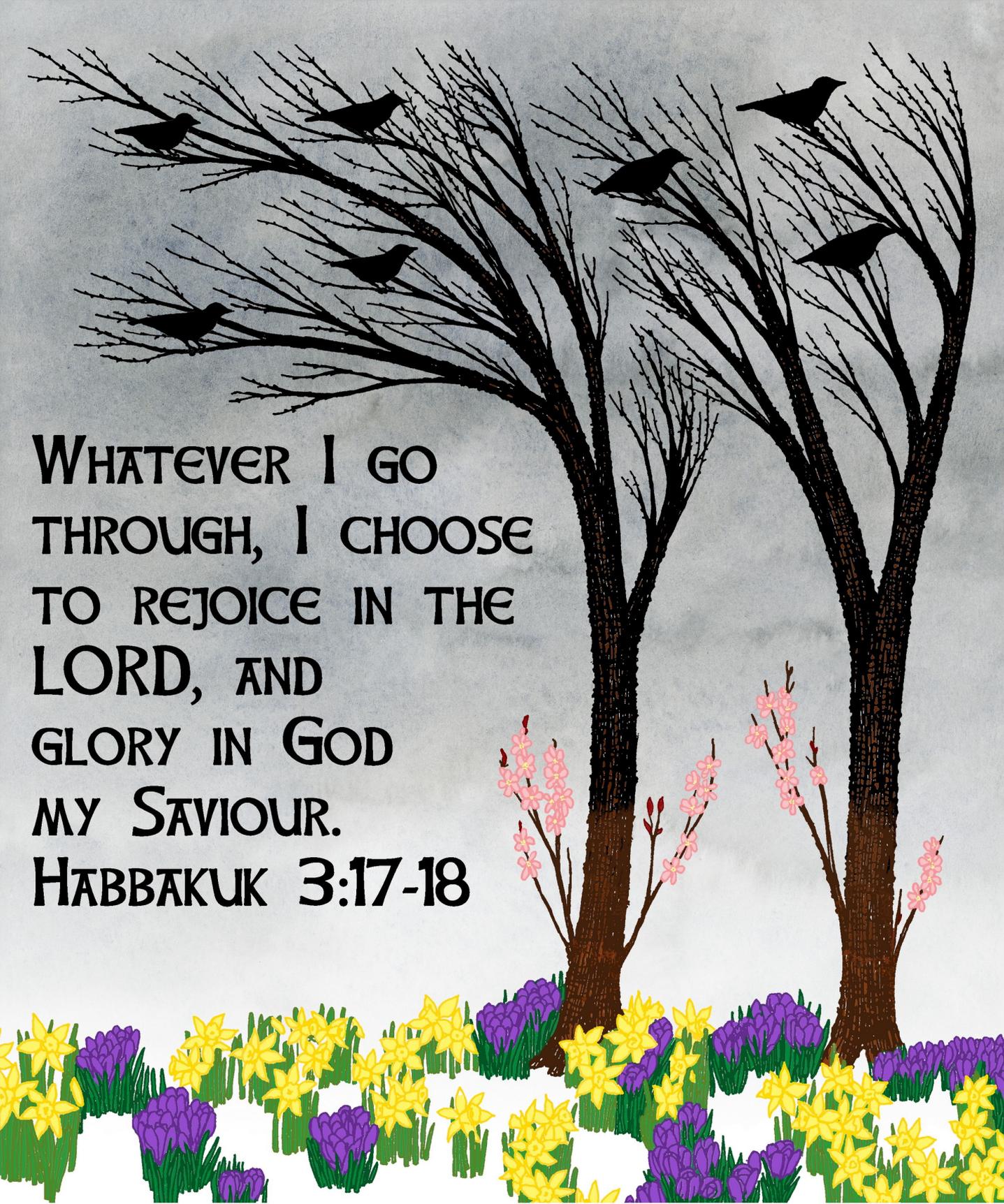




February
2023

Stratton Team Ministry
Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together
www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



WHATEVER I GO
THROUGH, I CHOOSE
TO REJOICE IN THE
LORD, AND
GLORY IN GOD
MY SAVIOUR.
HABBAKUK 3:17-18

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

Priest in Charge: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick
Alison Burston
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

Mrs June Lewis 822954
Mr Richard Pflieger 828367
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 724776
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935
Mr Chris Pope

Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters

Dr Mike Boshier 07799835437
Mrs Mary Boshier

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL for St. Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene

Mrs Rosalind Mitchell (Secretary) 764146
Mrs Diane Whitford
(Deputy Secretary of St Mary Magdalene) 824339

St Leonards

Mr Michael Curtis
(PCC secretary St Leonards)

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

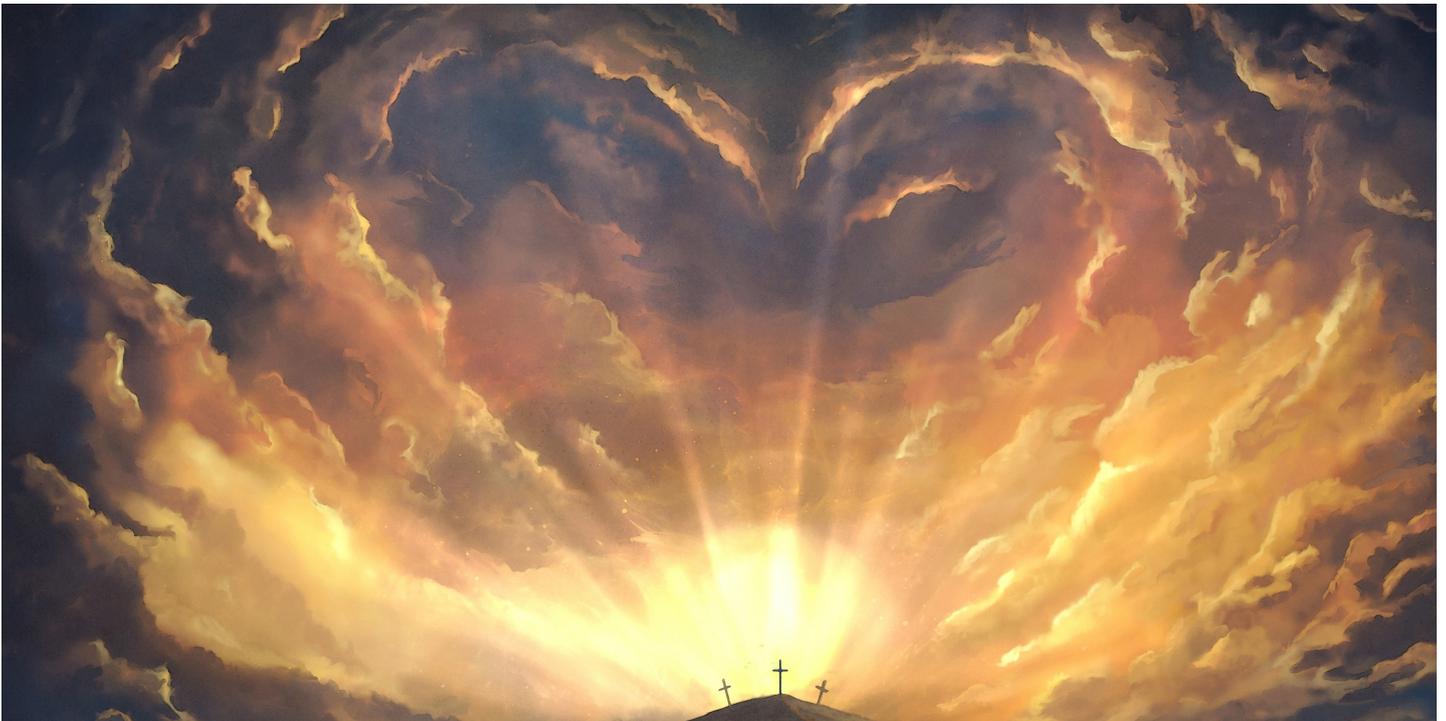
Stratton Methodist Church, 829335
St Mary's R C Church, The Presbytery, Swindon 535089

Dear Friends,

February brings heart shapes everywhere – cards, sweets, ornaments, cushions, I've even seen heart shaped crumpets. St. Valentine has become the patron saint of love and around his festival on the 14th we are inundated with symbols of love everywhere. Of course, once the 15th arrives all those symbols will have been eaten, recycled, discarded, or perhaps put away as keepsakes – and the remainder in the shops will be sold off at a discount.

Romantic love is a wonderful thing while it lasts, and can be the foundation for lasting, mutual care and relationships, but like the cards and gifts, chocolate and crumpets, it is often soon gone or sold cheap. But love is very important: - love of family, friends, neighbours, all humankind, as individuals, as groups, love for creation, for all life on our planet, for ourselves. Without love, which gives us a focus, a passion, a reason to act positively for others we would miss so much that is good in our lives. Real love is not cheap, easy, or disposable, it's not always shiny or fluffy or tasty; it can be difficult, unrewarding, costly, and unrelenting but as the song goes what use is a world without love?

The Bible has much to say about love – asking us to love one another, to love God and to love ourselves. It tells us to love because God loved us first and God's love is unconditional – that love doesn't care who we are, what we look like, what we have done, whether we are rich or poor or have a GSOH (good sense of humour). God's love is never-ending and we can never do anything to earn it, or do anything that will stop it.



For those of us who follow a faith, we are asked to share that love, to pass it on and follow God's example. That's not always easy, and we often fail because we are human, not divine.

If you find it hard to love, or feel you fail at times, the passage below offers some guidance, and a reminder of just how much we are loved by the one who will never stop loving us.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

May you know just how much you are loved and may you share that love with everyone you meet not just this Valentine's Day but always.

Blessings

Elveen



VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

Recently I took a mini cruise and enjoyed good company and good food including being at the Captain's Table.

As someone who has suffered from mal de mer, the waters were calm, the bunk (note the nautical term) was most comfortable, the cabin on the small side but perfectly adequate for a single traveller.

As with reading one's Bible, it was a voyage of discovery as we docked at places I had never before visited. The Bible takes one to places I had seen before, Malta, Cyprus and Rome but this mini cruise took me to new places. I marvelled at the way in which the crew used walky talkies from bow to stern when coming alongside.

In all, for me, a voyage of discovery and I commend us all to voyage through our Bible.

(For a sequel please turn to page 14)

Colin Howell



Down Country Lane and Tracks

In Search of St Cuthbert's Shrine Durham Cathedral.

In the last issue I wrote about Lindisfarne and St Cuthbert this month continues the story to when St Cuthbert died in 687 AD. St Cuthbert was buried originally on Lindisfarne but due to raids by Danes and Scots the monks on Lindisfarne packed up and left the island for safety in 883AD. They took with them the coffin of St Cuthbert and travelled to Chester Le Street where they settled. Further raids moved them onto Ripon for safety; later they travelled onto Durham where there was a castle fortification and this is where they finally settled in 995 AD.

It was decided to build a Cathedral and Benedictine Monastery to house a shrine to St Cuthbert on a high point over the river Wear with fortification. 93 years later in 1093AD Bishop William of St Calais ordered the building of a new Norman Cathedral on the same design and size as Old St Peters Basilica in Rome. The work was completed by Bishop Ranulf Flambard in 1193 AD using the same stone masons as Winchester



Cathedral.

St Cuthbert's Shrine was built at the east end of the Quire of the Cathedral and gradually it was filled with ornate furnishing and was one of the most visited shrines in the country. This was plundered by King Henry VIII commissioners in 1539. Eye witnesses said they brought with them a goldsmith to take away all the gold, silver and precious stones who opened the coffin of St Cuthbert to see if there were more jewels, only to find the Body of St Cuthbert still in its original state of preservation and the commissioners fled.

The Cathedral held many rare treasures including the Lindisfarne Gospels which have been moved to the British Museum. St Cuthbert's shrine today at the east end of the Cathedral is a quiet space with seats allowing you to just sit and pray. It is a wonderful experience to just sit quietly reflect and meditate. It is easy to think of St Cuthbert in his life of simple prayerful worship and leadership of the Lindisfarne monastery.

The Celtic Tradition is centred in the northeast and at Durham Cathedral are the resting places of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede who were two of its Spiritual leaders.

One lasting picture of St Cuthbert was a full size Bronze sculpture which was in Lindisfarne Church of 6 Monks carrying St Cuthbert's coffin away from Lindisfarne. In 2000 for the millennium a further copy of this full size Sculpture has been erected in the central Square in Durham, a sight to be seen.

Richard Pfleger





Home > Get Food > Distribution Centres

Distribution Centres

Once you have a referral which is in the format of either a paper voucher or text (which has to be sent to a particular distribution centre) then go along to one of the following locations at the published times.

Stratton Team Ministry is pleased to announce that our Food Distribution Centre at St Margaret's has been officially opened by Bishop Lee



**Every
Thursday
12 - 2pm**



For more information on the food collective

<https://www.swindonfoodcollective.org/about-us/about-swindon-food-collective/>



St Margaret's Quiz Thursday Eve 2 March

Finer details nearer the event, but just a quick heads up, please put this date in your diary.

You have heard of the “three R’s”, well think the “three F’s”! **F**un, **F**ood and **F**ellowship!”

Start getting teams of up to a maximum of 6 together and there will be a small prize for the most novel/topical name on the night. Singles and couples please come, play on your own if you prefer but we can also make up scratch teams on the night or before.

Family, friends and neighbours are welcome too.

There will be a nominal charge to cover costs and hopefully a little towards much needed funds post Covid, full details to follow so keep watching this space as we will need an indication of numbers nearer the time for catering purposes.

5TH SWINDON BOYS BRIGADE



5th Swindon Boy's Brigade.

A busy time on the run up to Christmas for members of the 5th Swindon Boy's Brigade. At the beginning of December, we took part in a tree planting event at Kenwin Close. It was a cold, damp morning when we joined others to help plant different saplings. Afterwards we went into the St. Margaret's Church centre for some well-earned refreshments.

The following week we took some Junior Boys to WADAMS amateur production of "Jack and the Beanstalk". A fun evening was had, with plenty of shouts of "He's behind you!" and silly jokes and songs.

Our last meeting was Christmas party evening, with party games, including pass-the-parcel, chocolate game, and doughnut eating race and plenty of party food.

On 14th January, Junior Boys joined other Junior and Company Boys at Stroud Bowling Alley for the Gloucestershire 10 pin bowling competition.

With six Boys on each lane, there were some unique styles of bowling, but some high scores, a fun afternoon

One 5th Swindon Boy scored the second highest score of the Junior Section, 91 for the first game and 125 for the second. Well done Magnus.

For further details of 5th Swindon Boy's Brigade please contact T. Daghish
5swindonbb@gmail.com

Thank you,
Teresa Daghish

Wroughton Amateur Dramatic and Musical Society
Presents the 2022 Family Pantomime

Jack and the Beanstalk

by Tina, Rob & Isaac Burbidge

10 Dec 2:30 pm
10 Dec 7:00 pm
11 Dec 2:30 pm

£10 adult
£8 child
(Group of 10: 1 free)

Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton, SN4 9LW
E-Tickets: www.wadamsdrama.org.uk
Box Office: (01793) 825645



**WE NEED YOUR HELP TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR
CHURCH at ST MARGARET'S
WE ARE HOSTING A:**

Clothing Collection

with Rags 2 Riches 4 Schools

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear, maybe last year's fashions, or that buy that was too good to leave but it's not really you after all?

Please help us fundraise by donating your good quality unwanted, re-useable (clean, dry and wearable) clothes and accessories

(please pair and tie shoes together)

Your donations become affordable clothing in other countries

so please do not send poor quality, dirty or wet items, and no duvets, pillows, curtains, books, CDs or bric-a-brac.

STOP and THINK - is it something you'd wear out and about yourself or pass to a friend? If not, no-one else will want to buy and wear it either, so unfortunately it's not reusable and can't go in the bag.

Even if it's only one t-shirt please bring it in, as it will all help our church.

If you can involve family, friends and neighbours please do.

We truly appreciate your support in helping raise additional funds for our church.

There's no better feeling than knowing you raised funds, helped the economy, the environment, and somebody on the other side of the world – and all by donating some clothes.

If we can fill 100 bags we'll have half a tonne!

Please bring your donations to St Margaret's Centre:

On the 5th March 2023

Jokes



My friend bought tickets for the England v France Rugby International on Friday 28th February not realising that is also the date of his marriage. So if someone is interested the church is in Reading, the woman's name is Jessica.



The judge asked the defendant, "When is your birthday, Mr Slim?"

"February the 14th your honour." "And what year?" "Every year your honour"

A few cerebral witticisms:

- ☺ Once you have seen one shopping centre, you have seen a mall.
- ☺ A mans home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- ☺ Dijan vu - the same mustard as before.
- ☺ Shotgun wedding - a case of wife or death.
- ☺ Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

- ☺ Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- ☺ When two egotists meet its an i for an i.
- ☺ The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- ☺ A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- ☺ Acupuncture is a jab well done.

A mixture now:

Why does a round pizza come in a square box?

Bob Forster from Shipston - under- Wychwood in Oxon has found a local plumber whose van announces, "The lane Drainer-he come pronto".

After his return from Rome, Will could not find his luggage in the London Gatwick airport baggage area. So he went to the Lost luggage office and told the woman on duty that his baggage hadn't shown up on the carousel. She smiled and told him not to worry because they were trained professionals and he was in good hands. "Now", she said to Will, "has your plane arrived yet?"

Shaggy Dog Stories:

Billy, a nine year old, took up the hobby of collecting stamps. He was very enthusiastic about it until one day his neighbours' children saw his impressive collection and took up the hobby. Billy complained to his Dad, I don't want to collect stamps anymore. Andy has every stamp that I have." "Don't be stupid", son, his Dad said, " Don't you know that imitation is the best form of Philately.

Dick Whittington was investigating warring factions of a Chinese secret society. Suddenly, his pet was taken hostage. When Dick reported the abduction to the police the officers were unsympathetic. "What's the matter? they teased "Tong, got your cat".



Feb the month for Valentines:



What did the couple say after they were struck by Cupid's arrow? "Ouch."



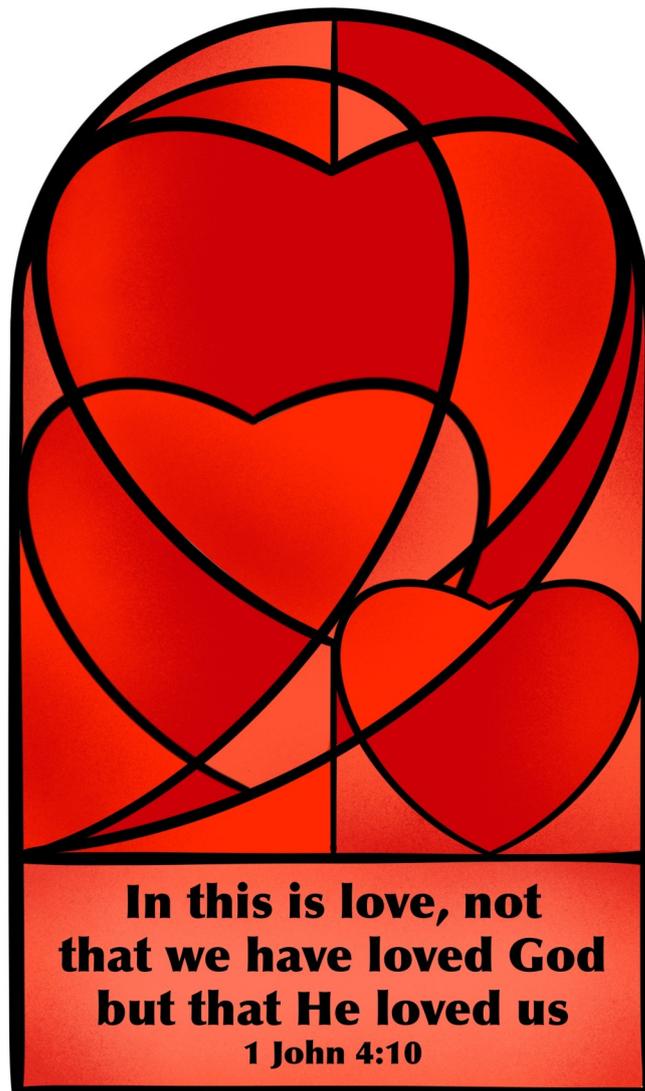
What did the chef give his wife on Valentine's day? A hug and a quiche.



What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's day? "I'm stuck on you".



What kind of flowers should you not give on Valentine's day? Cauliflowers!



Sequel for page 5

The reader may have realised that I was on narrow boat 'Resolution' (70' x 7') on the Oxford Canal voyaging to Rugby. This was somewhere I had never before visited and the water at 4 mph, was indeed calm.

Colin Howell

February

5th Sunday Third before Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Leonards Church

10am St Mary Magdalene Church

Holy Communion Service

Sunday Morning Worship

Family Service

12th Sunday Second before Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church

11am St Leonard's Church

Sunday Morning Worship

Holy Communion Service

Family Service

19th Sunday Next before Lent

11am Coleview Community Centre

Team Service

22nd Ash Wednesday

7pm St Margaret's Church

Ash Wednesday Service

26th Sunday First of Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Leonards Church

11am Coleview Community Centre

Sunday Morning Worship

Holy Communion Service

Holy Communion Service

Please see our website for the most up to date information www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.

SATURDAY SCENE

AT ST MARGARET'S CENTRE

(KENWIN CLOSE, OFF ERMIN STREET, STRATTON ST. MARGARET)

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

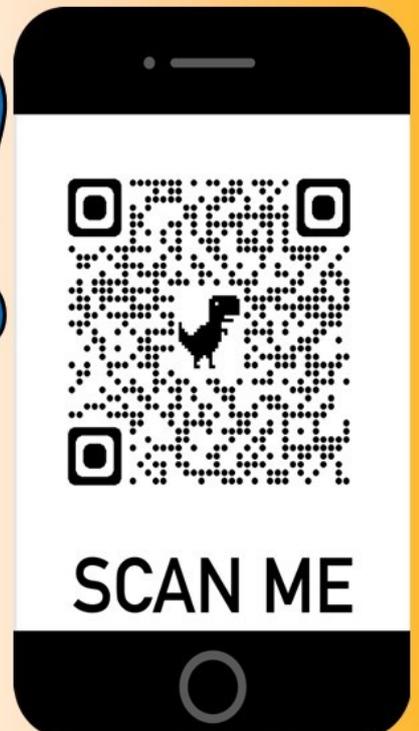
@ 4PM

BEING THANKFUL

FREE!



STORIES
FUN
FOOD
MUSIC CRAFT
GAMES





**St Mary Magdalene Church
South Marston**

MEETING POINT

**The 'drop in' is for all members of
our community**

**Come and Join Us for Coffee
In the Village Hall**

10:00 - 12:00

**Saturday
18th February**

Every Third Saturday in the month

**Enquiries or for table reservations
please call 01793 831473**



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at
Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

22nd of February 2023

Everyone Welcome



Valentines Tea Dance



- All dance styles and abilities welcome
- Cakes for sale in aid of St Margaret's church
- Tea and coffee making facility available
 - Entry - £7 on the door
- Sunday 12th February - 14:00 Till 17:00
- Stratton St Margaret, Swindon, SN3 4NY

Bumps & Babes

ARE YOU A NEW
OR EXPECTANT PARENT?

Register Now

forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7

Come and join Stratton Team Ministry for our Bumps and Babes group on Tuesdays.

Bumps & Babes is a place for expectant parents and parents with babies (up to one year old*) to meet and chat over a coffee – sharing in the experiences of pregnancy and the joys and challenges of the early months of parenthood.

Mats and toys are available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We are joined by guests each a month to share with us about subjects from weaning to breastfeeding; faith to reusable nappies!

Register for your place now via the link or complete a form on arrival – we look forward to welcoming you!

When: Tuesdays 11.15-12.15
(term time only)

Where: St Margaret's Centre,
Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links



Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com



www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/



Register for your place now
<https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7>



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon



GIVING

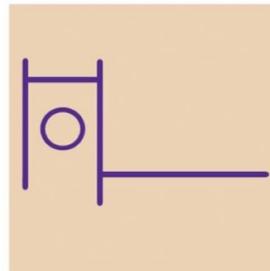
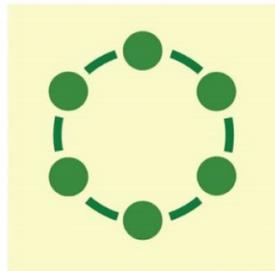
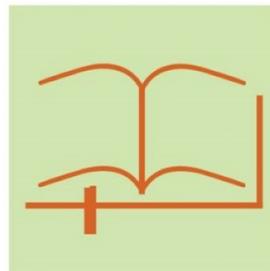
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/>

If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the church. It is perfectly safe and can be stopped or changed at any time.

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you



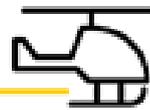
TM

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME



Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre

**RECYCLE YOUR
CRISP PACKETS HERE!**



RECYCLE FOR



**WILTSHIRE
AIR AMBULANCE**



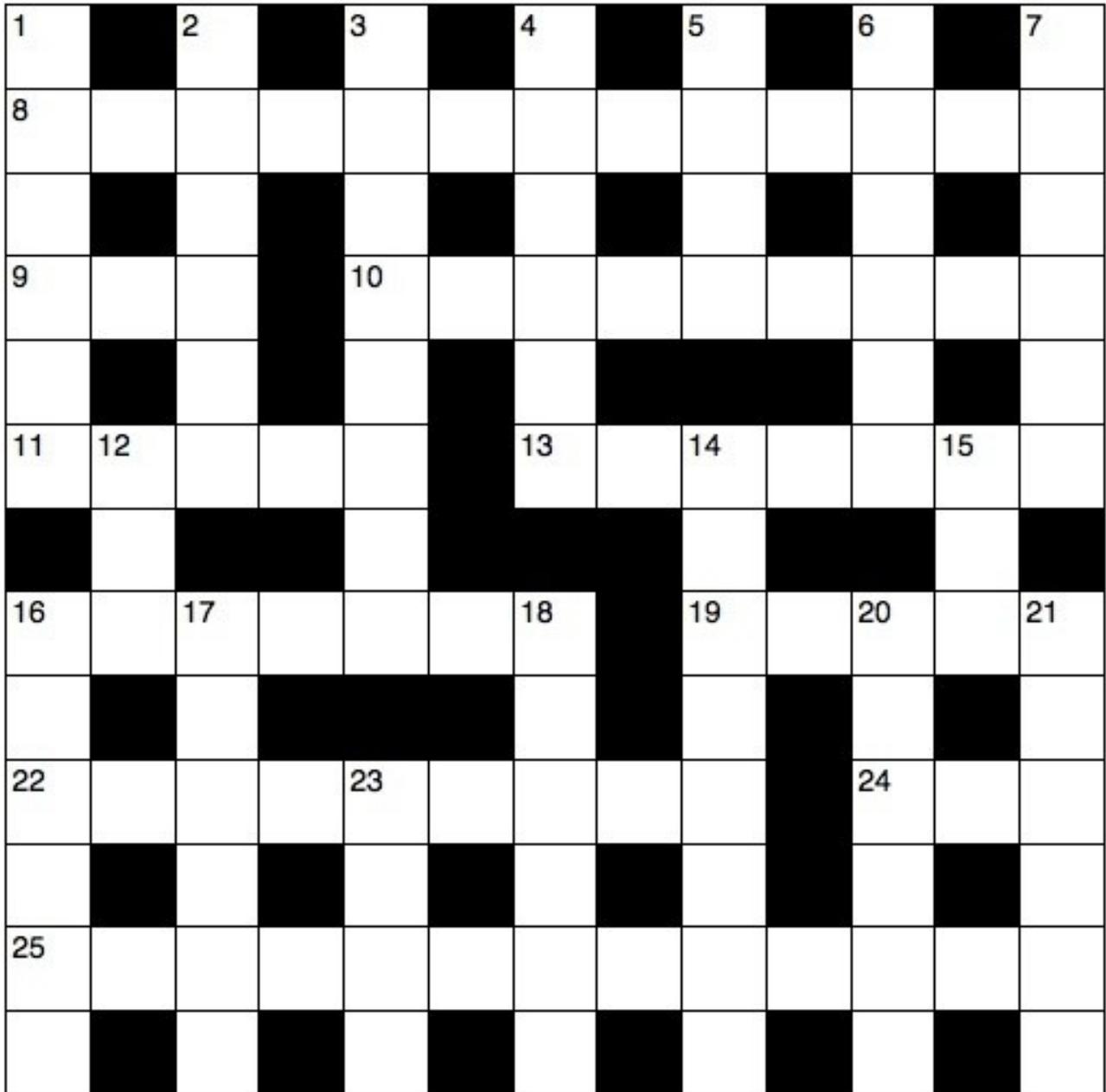
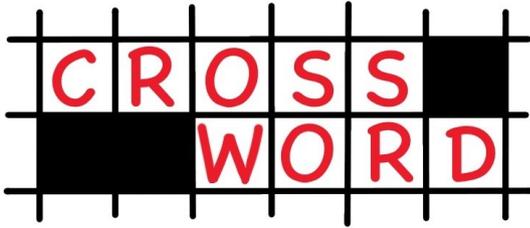
In support of

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

ACCEPTED WASTE



Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets



Across

8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)

9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)

10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)

11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)

Across

13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)

24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)

2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)

3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)

4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)

6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)

7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)

12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)

14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)

15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)

16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)

17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)

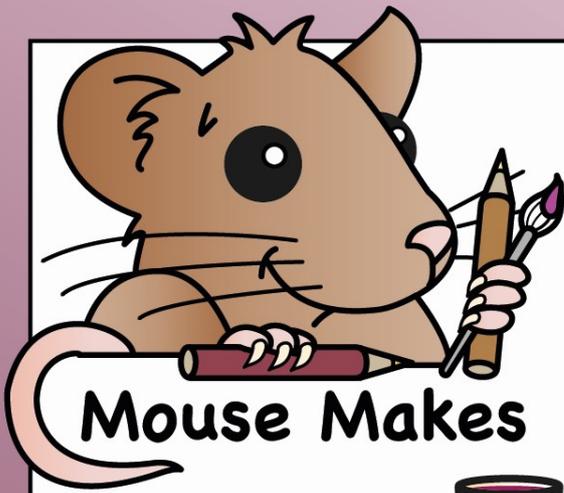
18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)

20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)

23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)





Mouse Makes

What was the special meal Jesus was preparing to eat?



Matthew 26:18

What did Jesus take, bless and break?

Matthew 26:26

What did Jesus give thanks for and share?

Matthew 26:27

What did Jesus say this represented?

His Matthew 26:26



What did Jesus say this represented?

His Matthew 26:27-28

Jesus instructed his disciples to continue to break bread and share the cup "in



of me."

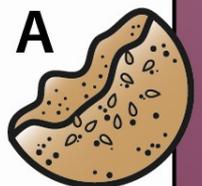
1 Corinthians 11:24-25



- SUPPER
- LAMB • LORD
- DISCIPLES
- TOGETHER
- EVENING
- ROOM • JAR
- WATER • TWELVE
- JESUS • CHRIST
- NIGHT • TOOK
- THANKS
- BLESSING
- BROKE • GIVEN
- COVENANT
- DRINK • EAT
- FORGIVENESS
- SINS • HOLY
- COMMUNION
- EUCCHARIST

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

Find the words from the questions too!



PEARCE FUNERAL SERVICES



Our Family Service

Caring For You

John Pearce DipFD MBIE

92 Ermin Street

Stratton St Margaret

SN3 4NN

01793 832072

www.pearcefuneralservices.co.uk

Crossword Solutions

ACROSS:

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN:

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th February 2023

Georgina Martin: Church Office,
Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

Errors and omissions — while we do try to ensure that all details are correct, some things may slip through and we apologise for that.

PARISH DIRECTORY & CENTRE USERS

ORGANISATIONS

Babies & Toddlers	Georgina Martin	07768 243675
Bell Ringers	Wendy Sears	07769 788821
Boys' Brigade	Teresa Daghish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Bumps and Babes	Bekki	bumbsandbabes9@gmail.com
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	c/o Church Office	826505
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pflieger	828367
Evening Fellowship Group	Anne Pope	07790 730 685
	email eannepope@gmail .com	
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	724776
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
	Geoff Walters	822006
Preschool	Hayley Woods, Supervisor	07816 547752
Wl. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900



Foot Health Care by
Lisa Bailey

Foot Health Care

by Lisa Bailey Dip MCFHP MAFHP

I am a fully qualified and insured Foot Health Professional and a member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals- Insured and DBS checked.

I offer a mobile service to patients in the comfort of their own homes, residential/ nursing homes. In the Swindon area and surrounding villages.

Appointment Includes

- Full neurovascular assessment (then yearly or more frequent check-ups for high risk clients).
- Full medical history taken, including allergies and a current list of your medications. Discuss any concerns you may have.
- Full assessment of your feet to help provide an individual treatment plan.

Appointment will include routine footcare as discussed in treatment plan such as:

- Toenail cutting + filing
- Diabetic foot management
- Ingrown toenails
- Corns and calluses
- Thickened and fungal nails
- Athletes foot
- Fingernail cutting + filing (additional cost of £8)

Advice will be given to maintain good foot health until your next treatment.

Standard Charge Per Visit: £35

☎ phone - 07762700558

✉ email - baileylcbhome@icloud.com

📘 Facebook - Foot Health Care by Lisa Bailey

Golden Charter

Funeral Plans



INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Care and compassion when you need it most

PERSONAL SERVICE

A dedicated personal service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Tried and trusted since 1916.

Where excellence comes as part of the service.

01793 611060

WWW.BLACKWELLSOFSWINDON.COM

38 CHENEY MANOR ROAD, SWINDON, WILTSHIRE SN2 2NS