

# The Messenger



Trinity  
United  
Reformed  
Church  
Upminster



October 2017

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## Minister's Letter

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Happy Harvesting!

Dear friends,

The year 2017 is moving speedily towards the colder seasons. We find ourselves in autumn and I am currently preparing 4 Harvest services! Alleluia!

When I think of harvest, I still think of farms, tractors and produce:

I grew up in a village, in the heart of the Hohenlohe plain in South Germany. There were fields and farms all around our village - and an abundance of crops.

My favourite childhood memories include riding around on the tractor of a church member through their fields (health & safety concerns were different back then), or walking through corn fields higher than ourselves and picking some of the corn on our ways. Our church was the main church in the village and giving thanks to God for the fresh produce from our farms was an important part of church life. During the annual summer holiday club, we always held the Sunday service in someone's barn rather than at church.

One Sunday each year, all the local groups and farming organisations were invited to a special service on a farmyard. We enjoyed worship, dancing, and the ever-important German sausages! On Ascension Day (still a bank holiday in Germany), we always worshiped on another farmer's lawn next to a stream of water, looking up at the clouds in the sky.

To me, the Bible verses came to life differently when I was surrounded by nature rather than inside our church building.

This summer, the Lectionary invited us to hear again the stories of the Sower in Matthew's gospel. I preached on those stories while at the same time doing gardening in my spare time. Most impressed by the sower's generous spreading of seeds onto all types of ground, I felt inspired to sow my lawn seeds in such a fashion too. A few weeks later the "harvest" of my sowing efforts was visible: grass had indeed grown, even where I had sown it among weeds.

Paul reminds us, in 1 Cor 3:6: "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." (NRSV) In a world, where humanity is powerful, resourceful and often selfish, it is important to remember that we are called to tend to God's Creation. We are stewards, workers, labourers in God's fields - not our own. And our actions (or inaction) have consequences.

At times of worries about natural disasters, we pray for our world and its people:

*Not so safely gathered in, in recent years.*

*Climate change, floods and disease have taken their toll.*

*As we sing the joyful hymns and admire the harvest display,*

*give us compassion and understanding*

*which moves beyond our dismay at the increased prices in our shops*

*into prayer and active concern*

*for those whose livelihood depends on the harvest in all its forms.*

*We pray for farmers,*

*especially those whose life's work has been destroyed in an instant;*

*for local people who suffer the knock-on effects;*

*for all affected by climate change across the world.*

*(by Carolyn Morris)*

Lord, this Harvest, give us joyful hearts and thankfulness for this world and its wonderful productivity. Help us to reassess our personal impact on the environment and help us to make small adjustments to our living that will have a big impact on our world.

Most of all, may we always appreciate life and all the blessings it brings. Amen

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## ***Family News***

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Best wishes to Joan Walker who recently celebrated her 90th birthday

We continue to remember those who are unable to attend church:

Doreen Leeder                      Doris Rulton                      Joyce & Les Marshall

Please let your Elder know of any items of news to be included in the messenger.

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## ***Message from Chris Willis***

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While tidying the vestry recently I found a small New Testament Bible that had been dedicated to Private Willis Jackson in 1917 by Rev. Stanley Blomfield.

Eileen Pullin kindly did some research and found that Willis Jackson was the father of Brian Jackson, an uncle of Chris Hewitt. Chris gave me her uncle's address and I sent the bible to him.

I received a letter back from Brian Jackson, which I thought would be of interest to the readers of The Messenger:

"Dear Chris (if I may be so familiar!)

Thank you so much for your letter and enclosure of a bible given to my father Willis Jackson at the beginning of the First World War.

I cannot remember but can only surmise that when my father died in 1980 the bible got returned to the church, but I cannot think why. I recollect seeing the bible kept with my father's war medals but all else remains a mystery.

You probably know that I and my wife Barbara (nee Randall) were connected with the then congregational church from virtual childhood until 1964 when we moved first to Guildford – finally ending up on the Isle of Wight – taking up an appointment as the Methodist minister at Bembridge.

Again you may know (or may not!) that I took early retirement to enter the Methodist ministry and am now on my 32<sup>nd</sup> year of service. Barbara and I have good cause to be thankful for the church in Station Road. We met there in the Youth Club back in the late 1940s, were married there by Rev. Robert Roope in 1953, had our three children baptised – all I think by Derek Stockwell – we have just celebrated our 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!

Finally, I well recall the portraits of former ministers seemingly glowering down in the minister's vestry, including Rev. Stanley Blomfield who it seemed had an outstanding ministry back in the mists of time – I doubt if mine will be remembered in the same way.

I am grateful to for Christine Hewitt (Barbara's niece) passing on the bible and have been in touch with her.

Many thanks again,

Sincerely yours Brian (Jackson)"

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## ***Social & Fundraising***

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### **Lawn Sales.**

A big thank you to all who helped this year in the lawn sales. It's a lot of hard work on the day, but it's good fun and a chance to meet and talk to people who we might not otherwise come into contact with. We have some regular customers now who look forward to our sales. I would just like to, mention Frank Sida who has done a sterling job again this year with his tools and bits and bobs, often raising as much as the rest of the tables put together.

### **Harvest Lunch.**

At the time of writing we have not yet had a planning meeting but I can tell you that there will be a hot lunch as usual, the price and menu to be announced. Harvest Festival is the 8th October and tickets will be ready for the 1st. As it is short notice I will accept bookings by phone if you are not in church on the 1st, but it will obviously be by booking only, we can't accommodate people on the day who come by off chance. Sorry. After the service we will have coffee as usual, then the auction after lunch.

### **Christmas Market.**

I know it's early, but I did hear my first Christmas Carol last week, admittedly in a music shop. I am anxious to arrange the manning of the stalls as soon as possible. If you are happy to take the same job as last year, please let me know, or if you fancy a change, or have any good ideas for new stalls I will compile a list of last year's stalls and start filling in names.

### **Church Charity 2018.**

Finally, my last job as chair of the committee will be to arrange next year's chosen charity. It's still early days, but if you have a suggestion, please write it down and pass it to me, either with a web site or some information on a web site I can look at. I need nominations by the end of October, please.

Pat Gothard.

PS We DO NOT require any more donations of china and glass for the Christmas Market but would welcome mugs, toiletries, and bottles.

## ***Messenger Deadline for November Issue***

Please submit articles for the November Messenger by 6 pm on Wednesday 18th October up to and including Sunday 5th November. The Messenger will be ready for distribution on Sunday 29th October.

mike.addis1@btinternet.com

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## **Harold Hill Foodbank**

Brian and I continue to volunteer at the Foodbank once a week and we are kept busy handling and sorting food donations and supplying food to those people in crisis.

Thank you to everyone who donated food recently. We have just taken 21kg food to the Foodbank from the Trinity collection box.

In August 3-day emergency food supplies were issued to 135 adults and 95 children. In that month 2,126kg food was given out directly to families and 299kg food given to night shelters and other organisations. 1,294kg food was donated to the Foodbank from local churches, organisations and individuals.

Please continue to donate; the Foodbank is especially in need of UHT milk (whole milk if possible for those families with young children), long-life fruit juice, tinned fruit, tinned meat, instant mashed potato and long-life or tinned sponge pudding. Of course, any tinned and packaged goods are very welcome, though the Foodbank does have plenty of baked beans, pasta, soup and tinned tomatoes.

Chris Willis



"Wait a moment, dear, this isn't a tourists'- attraction ratings guide, it's a Health and Safety warning!"

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## **Junior Church Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to the following celebrating birthdays in October:

Elijah Bűrma will be 4 years on 13th October

Sarah Emanuel will be 17 on 23rd October



image from: [http://www.mynorthside.com/assets/2419/12\\_digin2-web.jpg](http://www.mynorthside.com/assets/2419/12_digin2-web.jpg)

## Let's Dig Deeper!

- Have you ever been left with some questions about God/ the Bible after a Sunday Service?
- Would you like to know more about the Church and its Reformed Roots?
- What was Worship originally intended to be? And what should we make of it?
- How should we pray? Does prayer work?

These (and more) questions could be the focus of a joint Heath & Havering discussion group - and you could be part of it!

Using the URC's TLS Lite materials, I would like to invite you to consider joining me for some regular reflections and conversations about our Reformed Christian faith.

**Starting with : *Rooted in God - You, the Bible, God & Worship:***

***Monday 30th October at 7.30***

***13th November at 7.30pm***

***27th November at 7.30 pm***

Venue to be confirmed but possibly Trinity

Let's dig!! Dorothee

*RevdDorothee@t-online.de 01708 228489*

## Puzzle Page (answers on page 9)

**Across** 1 The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)

9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — —' (Matthew 6:13) (4,3)

10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)

11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)

13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)

16 Metallic element (4)

17 At line (anag.) (6)

18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)

20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)

21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)

22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)

23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)

25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)

28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)

29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1 Corinthians 10:17) (7)

30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

**Down** 2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made —' (1 Corinthians 15:22) (5)

3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)

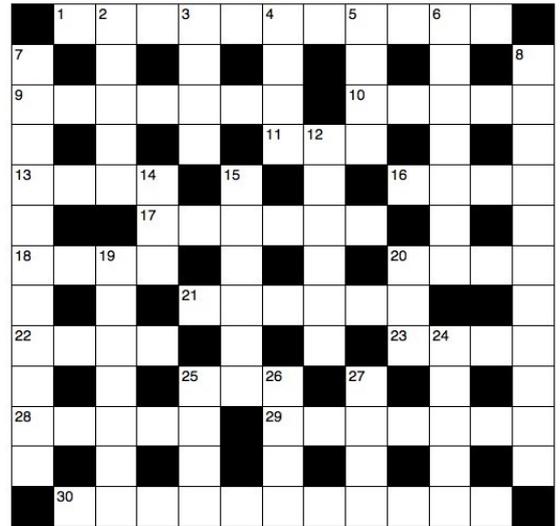
4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)

5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)

6 I veto me (anag.) (7)

7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)

8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)



12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)

14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)

15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the —, something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)

19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)

20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under —, but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)

24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)

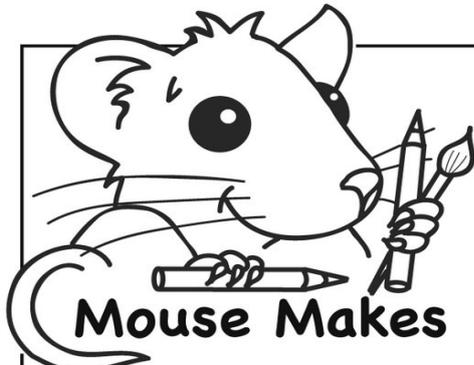
25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)

26 Heroic tale (4)

27 'Then you will know the truth, and the

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

# Children's Page



**Ezekiel** the prophet had a special dream from God. In his dream he stood in the middle of a **valley full** of a **great** many **bones**. God made him **walk** around them, then God said;

“**Son** of man, can these bones **live**?” Ezekiel replied; “**Sovereign Lord**, you know.”

God told Ezekiel to **prophesy** over the bones, to tell **them**; “**Dry** bones, **hear** the word of the Lord, I am about to put **breath** into **you** and you will live. I will put **tendons** on you and **muscles** over you and **cover** you with **skin**,

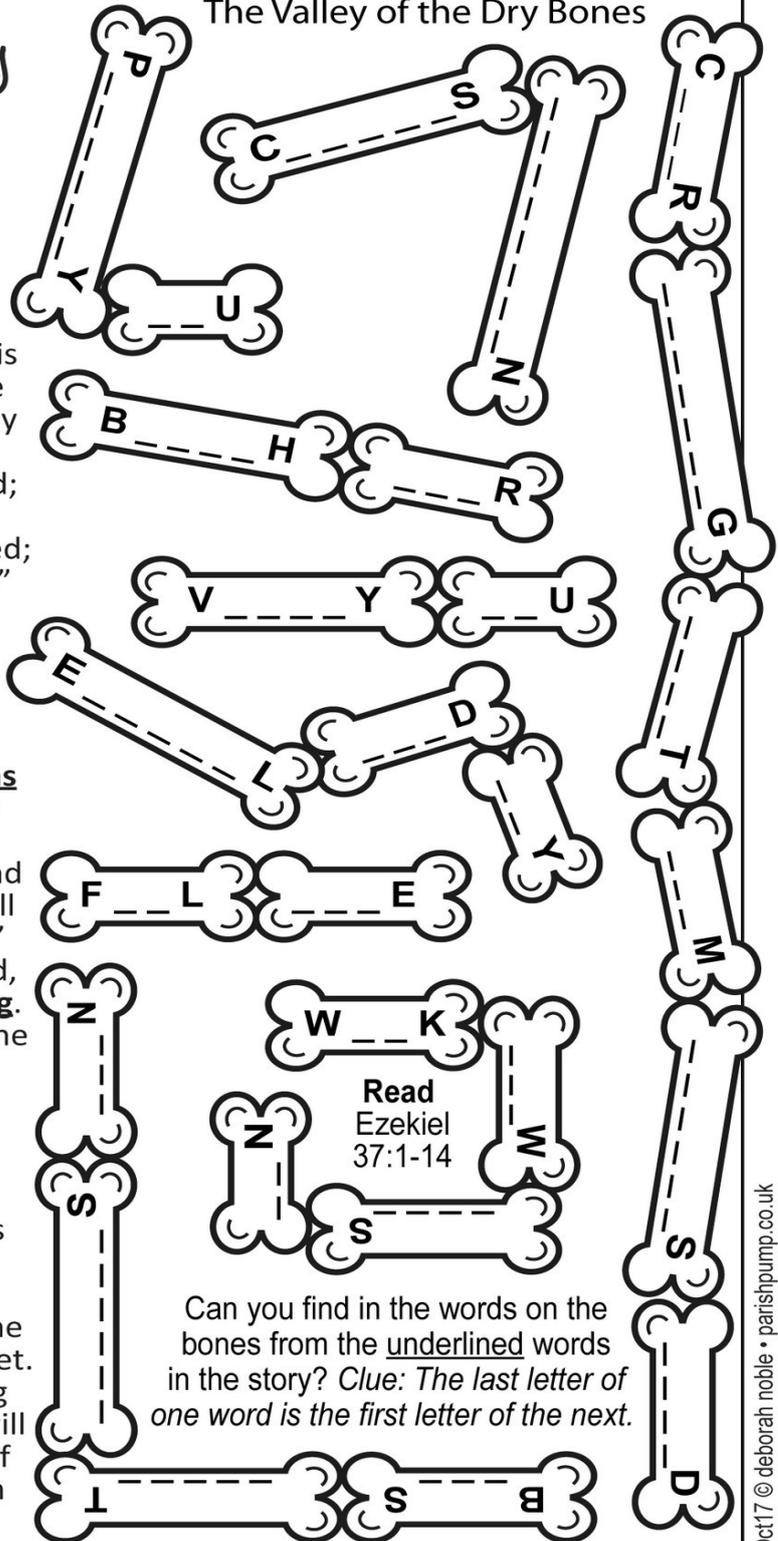
I will put breath in you and you will live. Then **you** will **know** that I am the Lord.”

So Ezekiel did as God had said, he heard the **sound** of **rattling**. The bones came together bone to bone, then tendons and muscles and skin appeared on them. God told Ezekiel to say to the breath; “Come, breath, from the four **winds** and breathe on these corpses so that they may live.”

Ezekiel spoke what God had told him and the **corpses** came alive and stood on their feet.

God explained the meaning of the dream and said; “I will put my **Spirit** in the people of Israel and they will know I am the Lord and they will live.”

The Valley of the Dry Bones



Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

Can you find in the words on the bones from the underlined words in the story? Clue: The last letter of one word is the first letter of the next.

## Saturday Coffee Rota

Oct 7	Susan Neville	Margaret Sida	Mavis Jones
Oct 14	Eileen Pullin	Mick Pullin J	acquie Chapman
Oct 21	Claire Brindle	Richard Brindle	Brenda Mole
Oct 28	heather Stainer	Evelyn Charlton	Linda Legrand
Nov 4	Susan Neville	Alison Smith	Laura Davies



## Sunday Coffee Rota

Oct 1	Eileen Pullin	Jacquie Chapman
Oct 8	Margaret Sida	Jane Whittington
Oct 15`	Susan Neville	Brenda Mole
Oct 22	Pam Addis	Mandy Haines
Oct 29	Heather Strainer	Linda Legrand
Nov 5	Margaret Sida	Jane Whittington



## Flower Rota



	WW 1 Memorial	Communion	WW2 Memorial
Oct 1	Heather & Evelyn	-	Heather & Evelyn
Oct 8		HARVEST FESTIVAL	
Oct 15	Susan Neville	Susan Neville	Susan Neville
Oct 22	Brenda Mole	Brenda Mole	Brenda Mole
Oct 29	Claire Brindle	Claire Brindle	Claire Brindle
Nov 5	Eileen Pullin	-	Eileen Pullin

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

	B	A	R	T	H	O	L	O	M	E	W	
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## ***Diary October***

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<b>Sun 1</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship inc Communion –Revd Martin Wheadon</b>
Thurs 5	11.30am	Service at Freshfields Residential Home - 265 Corbets Tey Road
	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 7	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group B
<b>Sun 8</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival– Revd Dorothee Bührma</b>
		<b>Auction of Harvest produce followed by Harvest Lunch at 12midday</b>
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>H &amp; H Evening Communion – Western Rd</b>
Thurs 12	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 14	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group C
<b>Sun 15</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship – Maureen Ross</b>
Thurs 19	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 21	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group D
<b>Sun 22</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship - Revd Chris Wragg</b>
Thurs 26	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 28	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning - Group A
<b>Sun 29</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Café Church – Revd Dorothee Bührma</b>
<b>November</b>		
Thurs 2	11.30am	Service at Freshfields Residential Home - 265 Corbets Tey Road
	1.00pm	Trinity Leisure Club
Sat 4	9.30am	Morning Prayers – Chapel
	10.00am	Coffee Morning – Group B
<b>Sun 5</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship inc Communion –Revd Ann Woodhurst</b>

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**Worship****Sunday Morning Worship 9.30am**

Holy Communion 1st Sunday in month

All-age Worship and Parade (term time) 2nd Sunday in month

Young Church 3rd Sunday in month

**Saturday Morning Prayers**—in the Chapel 9.30am

**Weekly Programme**

<b>Monday</b>	Beavers	6pm
	Explorer Scout Unit (as arranged)	7.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Cubs	6.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Badminton Club	8pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Trinity Leisure Club TLC	1pm
	Rainbows	5.30pm
	Brownies	5.45pm
	Guides	7.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	Parent & Toddler Group	9.30am
	Scouts at Methodist	7.15pm
<b>Saturday</b>	Coffee Morning	10 am