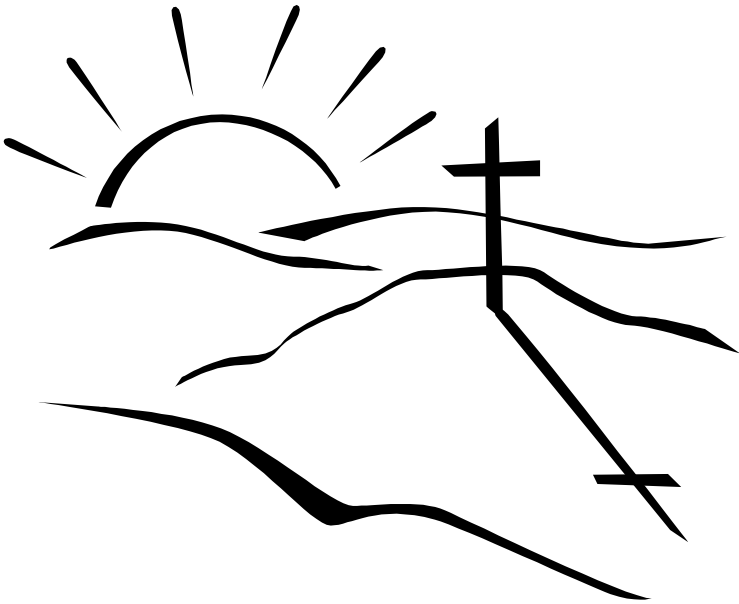


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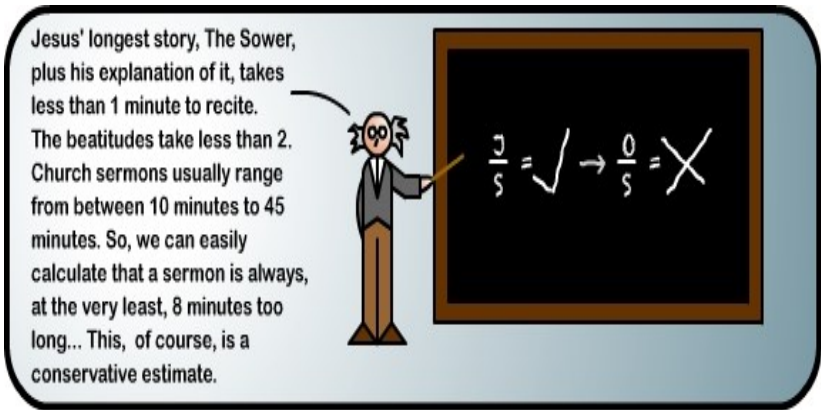
# MAGNET

The joint magazine of the Christian Churches in River



**April and May 2011**

The next Magnet magazine will be out for June and July. If you read anything that has encouraged you or made you laugh or think. Or if you have the talent to write articles that do this please help us to include them in the next edition. I can receive articles by email [philip.blanch@tesco.net](mailto:philip.blanch@tesco.net), by post to 22 Minnis Lane, River CT17 0PR or they can be left for me at River Methodist Church. The deadline for the next edition is 12th May 2011.



*J = Jesus, O = Others, S = Sermon,*

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## **The View from the Manse**

The Great Vigil of Easter is my favourite service of the year, because of the way it journeys through salvation history, through God's creating, loving, and redeeming God's people, it renews my hope and anticipation of God's answering fully and finally my hopes and prayers. What a vision! What Love!

### **Isaiah 55:1-11, Invitation to the Thirsty**

<sup>1</sup> Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

<sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

<sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendour.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (*Isaiah 55:1-11 NIV*)

This is my favourite passage in scripture, expressing longings that I think we experience in this twenty-first century with as much intensity as God's people did in the sixth century BCE.

Everyone has the basic necessities of bread and milk and even the wine for celebration; none need be anxious, and all are satisfied. I love the opportunity the Great Vigil gives us to spend time rolling texts like this over our tongues, echoing in our ears, taking in their richness, to close our eyes for a moment to enter into the prophets' vision of our world's redemption. There cannot be a better preparation to receive the Good News of Easter: That God has raised Christ Jesus from the dead.

I think it's often all too easy to miss the ways in which this Easter message is Good News for the whole world. The Good News of Easter is not just "Jesus rose from the dead, so we too can live after we die," Jesus' resurrection is "the first fruits" of Creation's end, Paul talks about this as fulfilment of our hope in Christ, as Christ fully and finally delivers the kingdom, God's Kingdom of joy, love, peace, and freedom. God's kingdom, where Isaiah's vision is fulfilled: Come and God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven. This Easter, find a Church conducting the service of the Easter Vigil, go to the service and immerse yourself in the richness of the scriptures and see and feel 'The Kingdom' unfold before you. God has in Easter given us all the proof we need that the time has

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come: Christ is risen! Alleluia! And thanks be to God.

With Prayers and Blessings

Bruce Allinson OCC,

Circuit Minister

### **Discipleship 101**

We have been encouraged by Bishop Trevor to respond to Jesus words, 'Follow me' and the Lent course many of us have studied has pointed us in the right direction. Travelling in right direction has been a concern of Christians for centuries, famously captured by John Bunyan in his classic work 'Pilgrims Progress'. However, the guide to life should not be merely our emotions but God's word the Bible. Why? Because otherwise we make it up as we go along and end up in all sorts of trouble.

The way we live as Christians life is both a moral code and a compassionate framework - and recently the old chestnut about politicians speaking about morals and the Church speaking on politics has crept in again. Of course we are both allowed to speak out but our own areas of expertise are where our strengths are. Jesus spoke of both and it got him into a lot of trouble, let alone Christians down through the ages.

Morally speaking we are not under some legalistic code but that doesn't mean that there is no code. The comment that Jesus doesn't say anything about for example, drugs or paedophilia and therefore neither should we runs the risk of destructive heresy let alone silencing the call to repentance and new life.

Jesus didn't need to address the minutiae of the way one should conduct oneself, that was already a given in the Law of Moses. Rather Jesus spoke into the situations that existed where retribution was often called for be that something brutal or harsh like stoning, or exclusion. His exposition of the Law which we find in Matthew 5-7, and sprinkled throughout the Gospel accounts provides a heavier burden of expectation than ever existed before. Jesus' focus on ones thoughts and motivations, lust or anger for example rather than outward forms of these inner desires eg sexual immorality or murder is a case in point.

So should the Church get back to promoting moral virtues and challenging immoral behaviour even if it becomes unpopular? Yes . In our society where most vices have been embraced by mainstream culture, greed being good, instant self-gratification, multiple sexual partners of whatever sex you chose, lies and bribery in business , destruction of millions in the womb, the poor and destitute marginalised as some examples, it would be a start to offer another way.

We do not need to be ashamed of God's guide for living as revealed in the Bible. Honesty, trust, fidelity in marriage and celibacy outside it, kindness, gentleness, humility rather than pride, a valuing of life in the very young and the very old, challenging evil with truth not putting our heads in the sand, as confident disciples of the Saviour of the World.

If this leads us to speak into the political arena so be it. To support marriage in the tax system is good for children and for the wider society let alone the man and the woman who have made public their love and commitment to each other. This God ordained institution might not be politically correct nevertheless the truth remains in this world that this is the union that God blesses and sanctifies above all

others. As a Church we continue to teach and seek to uphold one man and one woman for life till death us do part, for richer for poorer for better, for worse in sickness and in health. Unmarried mums and irresponsible dads are not the cause of our national state of moral turpitude, rather they and our financial mess are a consequence of our waywardness. Jesus words are from the beginning ‘Repent and believe the good news’ – ie turn round and walk in my ways. We are encouraged in Scripture to teach our children to walk in God’s ways and children are taught to honour their parents – break that link and we don’t have a garden but a jungle.

Let us walk with the Lord in the light and love – trusting and obeying.  
Rev Andy Bawtree

### **What is a disciple?**

What image do you conjure up when you think of the term ‘disciple’? Perhaps like me, you think of a man, wearing robes and sandals in the hot and dusty surroundings of first century Israel.



You may struggle to equate the term disciple with yourself, particularly when you consider how different life is today. The sacrifices made by Jesus’ early disciples may also seem remote from your own life.

But define disciple as ‘learner’, ‘apprentice’ or ‘follower’ and look in the mirror and you may see a disciple looking back.

Jesus calls us all to be disciples. If we believe in Jesus, however strong or shaky that faith is, we are disciples. Christian discipleship is the process of following Jesus and trying to become more like Him in our day to day lives. As none of us can ever be the ‘perfect’ disciple,

discipleship is about the journey we take as our faith develops and strengthens.

To help strengthen discipleship across the region, Bishop Trevor has invited churches and their congregations across Canterbury Diocese in 2011 to take part in a year of discipleship. Bishop Trevor has suggested three ways individuals can get involved:

- Pray – pray daily for your own discipleship and for the discipleship of your neighbours, family, church community and the diocese. Use the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost for additional prayer – local churches and the diocese will be providing prayers and resources to help with this.
- Participate – churches across the diocese are running a ‘Confident Discipleship’ lent course - some are doing it later in the year - do consider taking part so that with others you can discern what is working well for you and your church and what needs working on. Later in the year there will be other discipleship events taking place in church and in the Cathedral.
- Live it! – faith is not something you can compartmentalise. As Nicola Rumsey, the young woman who features in the first 24/7 discipleship postcard says: ‘it is more than just attending church on a Sunday’. The postcard arriving in churches in March shows how one man’s faith had a positive effect on another. Talk to others about your faith; demonstrate your faith through your actions and you will make a difference.

You may not be called Simon, Andrew, Mary, Martha or James,

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but as a disciple of Christ, you too can be changed, and change the lives of others.

Emily Shepherd, Member of the Year of Discipleship Team, Canterbury Diocese

*To find out more about the 24/7 live it! Year of Discipleship:*

[www.canterburydiocese.org/247liveit](http://www.canterburydiocese.org/247liveit)

### **What a difference one person can make...**

Ray is an older friend of my grandson, James. He was 19 years old. Having left school to go to University he opted for a gap year, using this time to go to an orphanage near Kampala, Uganda.

The children there were able to go to school but there was no money for school trips, equipment etc. Ray was so touched by the children's keenness to learn but felt different as they had no family, no home. Before he left Ray had given them everything he had. At Christmas Ray came home after his first term at University, still thinking how he could help the children, so he gathered together his old school friends to arrange an entertainment evening to raise £1,000 if possible.

James helped by playing his guitar and singing. The friends brought along their parents and families for the evening, there was a large raffle. The young ones 'dressed up' for the dance that followed. The result was £1,200.

During the long summer break ray is going back to use the money as he feels it is needed taking with him two girls to help him, before they too are off to University. We do not often hear of the good the young one can do.

Gladys Rae

**Women's World Day of Prayer**

I was the evening of Friday 14th March. It was a dark evening and I really didn't want to turn out that night for the gathering of folk meeting together at St Peter's for a service prepared by Christian ladies in Chile but I was so glad that I did.

We all know that Chile is a long narrow country in the extreme South West of South America but learnt that according to Chilean folklore God had a little left over from what he had created on each day of his creation i.e. A little fire, and cold, a little sun and snow, some lakes seas and rivers, some burning deserts, some massive mountain ranges, volcanoes, trees, metals, animals, fruits, birds and fish. He took all these 'left overs' in his hand and decided to leave them in the furthest corner of the world and so Chile was born. What a lovely story. Then we had the bible reading about Jesus feeding the 5,000. However we look at that story we were asked to consider what it means for us now today. Jesus asked his disciples for their help in feeding the huge crowd with the resources they had. He said "You feed them" - and they only had five loaves and two fishes but it was enough to be used by Jesus to meet the needs of the crowd.

At the service we were asked to consider what we all have to meet the needs of those millions of people here and over the world who so desperately need us to share our money, our food, our medicines, our prayers and our Christian message of love peace joy and hope with them. The question "How many loaves have you?" is asked of us each day. We may feel that we do not have much money to spare, that we'd rather not spend extra on Fair Trade goods, that we cannot give more of our time for caring for others but all our prayers and deeds of love are accepted by Jesus—like the loaves and the fishes and to quote the Tesco slogan 'every little helps'.

So how many loaves have we to give?

Beryl Hassell

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## **Parish Church Diary dates**

### **April**

- Sunday 17th      Palm Sunday  
10.15am joint procession begins  
10.30am joint service at River Methodist  
6.30pm Genesis service at Methodist Church
- Monday 18th      7.30pm Healing Service
- Thursday 21st      Maundy Thursday  
7.30pm joint service at Parish Church
- Friday 22nd      Good Friday  
10am Walk of Witness through Dover town  
2pm An hour by the Cross at the Methodist  
Church
- Sunday 24th      Easter Day  
5.15am Easter Sunrise Service at Dover Castle  
8am Holy Communion, followed by joint break-  
fast at the Parish Church  
10am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Holy Communion
- Monday 25th      Youth Pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral

### **May**

- Saturday 21st      Christian Aid Lunch

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## River Methodist Church Diary Dates

### April

- Friday 1st      4pm Friday Afternoon tea, St Martins Church Dover
- Saturday 2nd    10am—noon Charity coffee morning in aid of World  
Church 7pm Leprosy Mission Quiz Night at Dover  
Baptist Church. Book your place on 01483 225958.  
Adults £5 children £3
- Sunday 3rd      10.30am service—Mrs Hannah Edwards with Traid-  
Mothering      craft stall available.
- Sunday            3.30pm Applecroft  
6.30pm service—Mrs Sue Brockman
- Monday 4th     10.15am Ecumenical Fellowship at St Mary's Parish  
Centre. Speaker Rev Harvey Richardson. (please use  
kitchen door)
- Tuesday 5th     2pm 'Aspects of Discipleship' at Charlton Church,  
speaker Mrs Liz Waller (see notice board for more  
details)
- Sunday 10th     10.30am service—Rev Bruce Allinson.  
3.30pm Riverlea  
6.30pm service—Mr David Sheasby
- Tuesday 12th    2pm Aspects of Discipleship at Charlton Church,  
speaker Bishop Trevor Wilmott (see notice board)
- Wednesday      Tesco's collection for Christian Aid—can you spare  
13th              an hour? (see separate article)
- Thursday 14th    Tesco's collection for Christian Aid—can you spare  
an hour? (see separate article)



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**Methodist Church Diary dates May cont.**

Monday 9th	10.15am Ecumenical fellowship St Mary's Parish Centre, speaker Rev Jennifer Pilcher
Saturday 14th	Christian Aid Week
Sunday 15th	10.30am service—Rev J Lines 3.30pm Meadowdene 6.30pm service—Mr S Edwards
Tuesday 17th	2.30pm Christian Aid Tea at St Martins, £3
Saturday 21st	Christian Aid Lunch at St Peter's (see poster)
Sunday 22nd	10.30am service—Rev B Allinson 3.30pm Woodside 6.30pm service, Mr P Booth
Sunday 29th	10.30am service, Mr D Sheasby 6.30pm service, Rev B Allinson

After several years we have been offered a slot to collect for Christian Aid at Tesco's. To make this a success we need help. Please can you spare an hour on Wednesday 13th April or Thursday 14th April between 10am and 5pm.

Thank you  
Nancy Sheasby

Never be afraid to try something new—remember amateurs built the



### Shepherdswell News

Coffee mornings:

14 April Aspen Unit at Dover Academy

[www.doverssp/families/view/262/1627](http://www.doverssp/families/view/262/1627)

12 May Galvmed [www.galvmed.org](http://www.galvmed.org)

### Please remember the following people who are members of our Christian Communities:

- Harold Barnett
- Anna Hornsey
- Steve and Morag Robinson
- Congartulations to Laura and Mark, (and all the grandparents!) on the birth of their son
- Valerie and Michael Kingston
- Walter Mason and Valerie
- Ros and Amos Salisbury
- Rev Gordon Newton
- Frank and Irene Wratten
- Susan Randall
- Doris Knight
- Melanie, and her friends at the soup kitchen
- Carole Cotterrill

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**The Donkey** by G.K. Chesterton

When fishes flew and forests walked  
And figs grew upon thorn  
Some moment when the moon was blood  
Then surely I was born

And monstrous head and sickening cry  
And ears like errant wings  
The devil's walking parody  
Of all four-footed things

The tattered outlaw of the earth  
Of ancient crooked will  
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,  
I keep my secret still

Fools! For I also had my hour  
One far fierce hour and sweet  
There was a shout about my ears  
And palms before my feet.

Sent in by Sheila Howard

**Have you dialled the right number?**

I recently made a telephone call. As soon as I had dialled the number a voice said "The number you have dialled has not been recognised. Please hang up and dial again." I dialled, altering the last digit by one, and immediately heard the voice of a well known friend offering help.

Should you visit Antibes you will find the Chamin du Calvaire beginning at Port de la Salis. This is a very steep cobbled climb decorated with the 14 Stations of the Cross.

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When you reach the top you are rewarded by a magnificent view of the French Riviera. To the right is Antibes along to Nice many miles away, with sea and a lovely mountain backdrop. On the other side is Juan-les-Pins and on to Cannes.

Also at the top of the steps you will find a very ancient chapel. On one side is an OPEN door, protected with iron bars so anyone wishing can glance inside.

On one occasion whilst making the climb we passed a very elderly (obviously) French lady, bent double, laboriously making her way to the top. When she reached the chapel she knelt on the stone doorstep and, hands clasping the bars, prayed for a long time. I am certain that she had dialled the right number, for she knew it by heart and used it regularly.

O what peace we often forfeit  
 O what needless pain we bear  
 All because we do not carry  
 Everything to God in prayer!  
 Can we find a friend so faithful  
 Who will all our sorrow share?  
 Jesus knows our every weakness!  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Des Barwick

**Please pray** for the families of the following people whose funerals, or internment of ashes have taken place recently:

Averil Adams	Gill Janaway
Godfrey Petken	Jacqui Sedgwick
Joan Spain	Freda Goldfinch
Irene Porter	

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## **An update on Brisbane flood victims in Australia**

The following is a note from Andy's sister Becky who lost her home in the flooding.

Hey there bro x

Just want to pass on that your beautiful church has caused many a tear, as we share the love from your congregation.

We have given the money to a couple of people, firstly Sally the darling lady I worked with at preschool for a number of years. She has 2 very young children, and they were away on holiday like us, when the flood came through. They have no insurance or church family to hold them up, so Sally was so very grateful to you xxx... I have been passing on things to her that people give me and I don't need, and bless her she is finding it so hard to receive things, and I think has taken her a while to realise really what has happened.

We have also given money to a family who live up behind our house, they are a very quiet family with 3 adult children living at home, we really don't know them well, but knew that the bottom level of their house was totally flooded. We didn't know their exact insurance or financial situation, but both Marty and I had this family on our hearts, so he took them a cheque, and dear Helen the mother just sobbed and sobbed.... they are so alone in this situation, and obviously don't have many support people around them... people are still in shock, and for them they are having to live in their smelly house, and try and get their heads around what to do next (this is the situation for so many people.. )

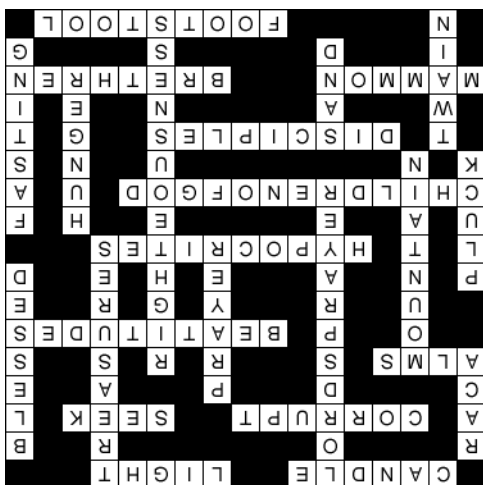
Please pass on to your congregation how blown away these people are that in a little church all the way in England, people are thinking of them... so thank you so very much xxxx

## Just For Laughs!

### True Love

If you love something, set it free  
 If it comes back, it was, and always will be yours.  
 If it never returns, it was never yours to begin with.  
 If it just sits in your living room,  
 Messes up your stuff,  
 Eats your food,  
 Uses your telephone,  
 Takes your money,  
 And never behaves as if you actually set it free in the first place  
 You either married it or birthed it!

You don't stop laughing because you grow old, you grow old because you  
 stopped laughing!



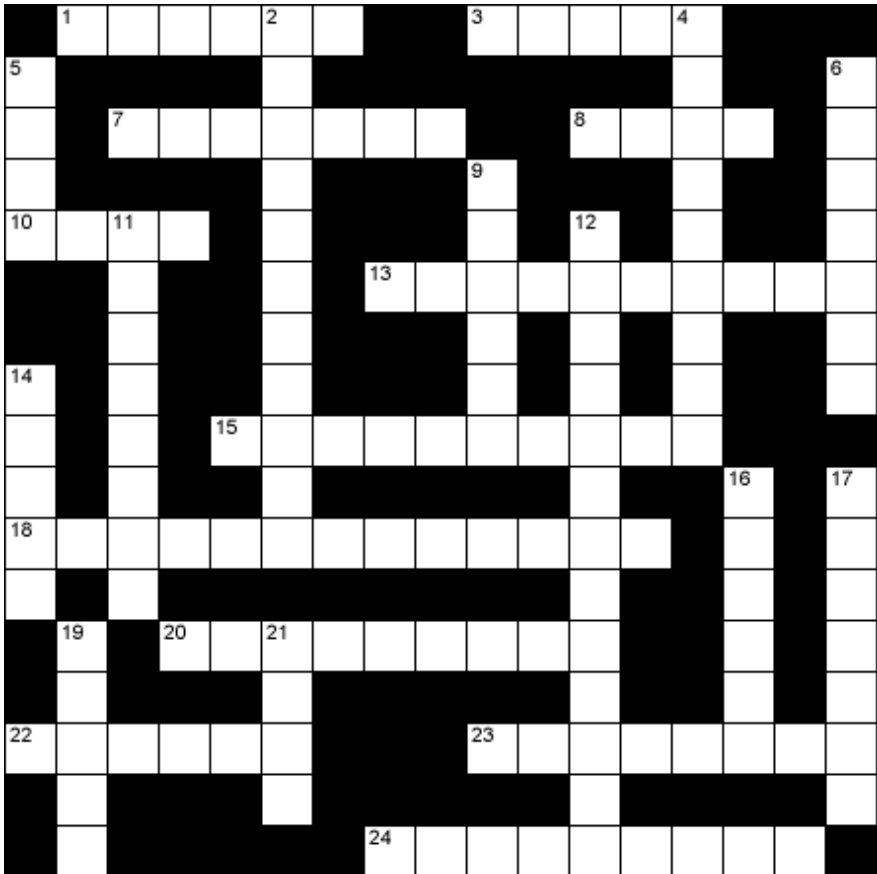
One day God was talking to Adam and he said, “Adam, you look lonely, I’ll give you a woman, but it will cost you an arm and a leg.” Adam said, “What can I get for a rib?”

Being cheerful keeps you healthy. It is a slow death to be gloomy all the time.”

Proverbs 17:22

## Bible Crossword The Sermon on the Mount

A crossword based on the Sermon on the Mount. This crossword uses the King James Version of the Bible.



© 2011 [www.biblequizzes.org.uk](http://www.biblequizzes.org.uk)

Answer on page 19

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Across

1. Not to be put under a bushel. (6)
3. Let yours shine before men! (5)
7. Moth and rust will do this to your earthly store. (7)
8. If you do this, you will find. (4)
10. These should not be done in view of men. (4)
13. The eight sayings by Christ at the beginning of his sermon. (10)
15. They sound trumpets in the streets when they are being charitable. (10)
18. The peacemakers will be called this. (8,2,3)
20. They were with Jesus when he gave the sermon. (9)
22. You can't serve God and this. (6)
23. Fellow believers. (8)
24. The earth is this to God. (9)

Down

2. Jesus gave this as example of how to communicate with God. (5,6)
4. Don't lay these upon the earth. (9)
5. Whoever says this to his brother shall be in danger of the council. (4)
6. Those who are given happiness and good fortune. (7)
9. When engaging in this, you should enter into your closet and shut the door. (6)
11. Where the sermon was given. (8)
12. You should search for this first, before worrying about food and clothing. (13)
14. What you should do to your eye if it offends. (5)
16. They which do this shall be filled. (6)
17. The hypocrites disfigured their faces while doing this. (7)
19. If you are forced to go a mile with someone, this is how far you should go. (5)
21. The foolish man built his house on this. (4)



## **St Peter & St Paul Parish Church, Useful Contact Numbers**

Church	Minnis Lane, River	821831
Vicar	Rev Andrew Bawtree, 23 Lewisham Road, River	822037
Readers	John Crowley, 22 Redlands Ct, London Road, River	825488
	Don Soppitt, 9 Pavilion Meadow, River	824344
	Lynne Watson	825232
Authorised Lay Children's Min- ister	Josie Harding, 2 Kearsney Court, Alkham Road, Temple Ewell	822107
Church Wardens	Janet Parrett, 40 Newlands, Whitfield	828132
	Chris Hurling, 1 Pavilion Meadow, River	822043
Director of Mu- sic	Ralph Harding, 2 Kearsney Court, Alkham Road, Temple Ewell	822107
Verger/Sacristan	Sue Mills, 69 Leybourne Road, Dover	226344
Parish Website	<a href="mailto:webmaster@rivercofe.co.uk">webmaster@rivercofe.co.uk</a>	
PCC Secretary	Gillian Rowland, 68 Valley Road, River	827661
PCC Treasurer	Adrian Fellows, 17 Meadway, River	825554
Lunch Club	Celia Powell, 43 Danes Ct. Dover	206959
Notice Sheet	<a href="mailto:vicar@rivercofe.co.uk">vicar@rivercofe.co.uk</a>	
Sanctuary Guild	Elizabeth Weaver, 3 Common Lane, River <a href="mailto:weeford1693@yahoo.co.uk">weeford1693@yahoo.co.uk</a>	823055



### **River Methodist Church, Useful Contact Numbers**

Church	Lewisham Road, River	827166
Ministers	Rev Jim McKnight, 9 Warden House Mews, Deal	362157
	Rev Bruce Allinson ,1 Heritage Gardens, Dover	206613
Senior Steward	Mr Stephen Robinson, 3 Wingrove Hill, River	820479
Treasurer	Mr Darren Appleton, 7 Orchard Drive	829208
Hall Bookings	Mr Derek Leach, 24 Riverdale, River	823926
Magnet	Mrs Karen Blanch, 22 Minnis Lane, River email: <a href="mailto:philip.blanch@tesco.net">philip.blanch@tesco.net</a>	823621
Newsletter	Mr Stephen Robinson, 3 Wingrove Hill, River	820479
	Mr Darren Appleton, 7 Orchard Drive	829208
	Mrs Helen King	829119
	Email for all: <a href="mailto:Riverstewards@hotmail.com">Riverstewards@hotmail.com</a>	
Organist	Mrs Doris Knight, 16 High Street, Temple Ewell	824966
Charity Coffee Mornings	Mr Maurice Palmer, 97 Minnis Lane, River	330511
Women's Guild	Mrs Nancy Sheasby, 209 The Gateway, Dover	202758
Junior Church	Mrs Linda Leach, 24 Riverdale, River	823926
STAR Club	Mrs Viv Jarvis, 19 River Street, River	823000
First Steps	Mrs Linda Leach, 24 Riverdale, River	823926
Music Makers	Mrs Karen Blanch, 22 Minnis Lane, River	823621

Please note, Jim's day off is Tuesday and Bruce's day off is Friday

# The Christian Churches in River—Sunday Services

## River Methodist Church Ss Peter & Paul C of E

Sunday Worship 10.30am and 6.30pm

Coffee bar open to all Tuesday mornings

House groups

First Steps (for parents and little ones)

Seekers and Treasure Hunters (after school kids clubs)

Women's Guild

STAR Club

Music Makers (pre-school music group)

You are very welcome to attend any of our regular activities, please see contact numbers for any further information.

Ministers: Rev J McKnight and Rev B Allinson

8.00am Service

On 1st Sunday in the month

BCP Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship

On 1st Sunday: Family Communion

On 3rd Sunday: All-age Family worship

Followed by refreshments each week

6.30pm Evening Worship

3rd Sunday Holy Communion

Wednesdays 10am Holy Communion

followed by refreshments

Vicar Rev Andy Bawtree