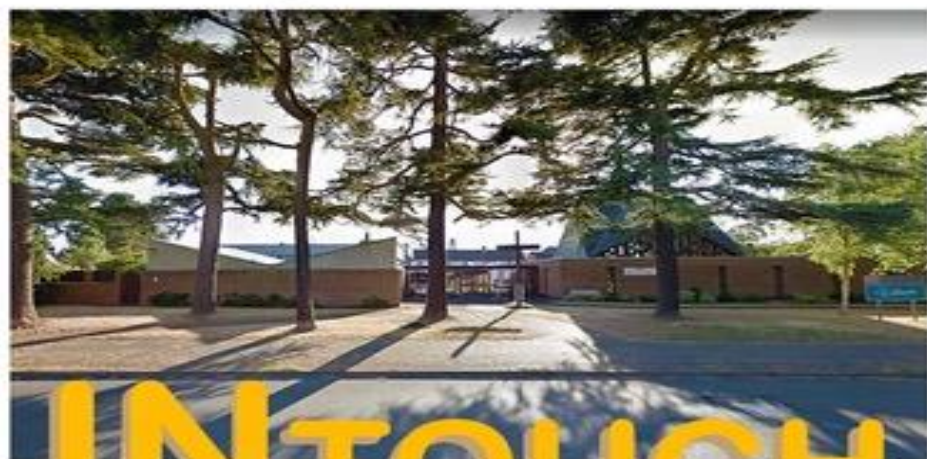


Kingswinford



INTOUCH

From him the whole body,
joined and held together by
every supporting ligament,
grows and builds itself up
in love, as each part does
its work.

- Ephesians 4:16

Methodist Church

July / August 2026

Issue No.55

From the Editor....



Today at college, it was refreshing to see amongst the young students wearing their turbans, others their hijabs, how also a growing number are unashamedly wearing crosses.

Last night I attended Rainbows' and Brownies' celebration of the church's 60th birthday where I recognised a lot of the girls and their families because they regularly attend our All-Age Worship.

Finally, whilst on a recent holiday in Ilfracombe, I came across a wonderful cross-generational project at a local church, where a group of primary school children interviewed the older members of the congregation.

So where am I going with this? Frequently, I talk about trying to be Jesus-like and praying.

Today, I add to that list **hope**. Hope because I have witnessed new shoots – the Christian faith growing amongst our younger generations.

God bless you all

Richard

Deadline for the next (September) magazine is:

Friday 21 August 2026

Please put this date in your diary!

A prayer for hope around the world

God of all creation,
You breathe hope into every corner of the earth.
Forgive us when we lose sight of your promises,
And let our vision for the future be filled
With glimpses of your kingdom
Where peace and justice reign,
Even in places of suffering and conflict.

God of compassion,
You call us to be bearers of hope.
We lift those suffering around the world to you,
Those who long for safety, healing and peace
Strengthen us to stand alongside them,
And inspire us to work for a world where hope prevails,
And all may flourish.

Spirit of life,
Fill every heart with hope.
Renew our strength to believe in your promises,
And give us the courage, wisdom and will
To work towards a world transformed by your love.

Amen



Core Bible July 2026

We meet at 7.30 pm on Monday evenings in the worship space. We are always glad to welcome new faces. This group is for everyone - whether you read the Bible daily and can quote multiple verses, or if you pick the Bible up rarely and are not sure what the names of all the books are!

There will only be two meetings in July:

- The first, on **July 6th**, will be a showing of **'The People's Emergency Briefing'**, in conjunction with our friends from St Mary's, St Francis with St Clare. This will be held in the worship space with a 7.20 pm arrival and a prompt start at 7.30 pm. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be available.
- **July 13th** will be a **Bible Praise** – an opportunity to bring along a favourite bible passage to discuss.

There are no meetings of Core Bible during August.

The group will restart on September 7th. Look out for details of our Autumn studies in the next magazine.

Opportunities to serve ...



Could you be part of a Kitchen team for church events such as the recent Gentleman Songsters' Concert, General Church Meetings and possibly funerals of members of the church family?

This would involve making, serving and clearing away tea, coffee and possibly cake.

If this is something you feel called to help with, please let our stewards, Vicky and Kira, know that they can call on you in times of need.

Do you enjoy singing??

Could you spare an hour from 6.30 to 7.30 pm on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday evenings of each month?

Why not come along and join ITL? ... and sing to your heart's content and God's glory!



A Time for Everything

Having recently resigned his membership of Kingswinford Methodist Church, John Nash has written a lengthy letter entitled 'A Time for Everything'.

Both John and Gill feel they have enjoyed a rich season of healing and direction with Kingswinford Methodist Church and they are appreciative of the kindness, support and understanding they have received from members of the congregation. John states in his letter that they "have every intention of continuing to service the beautiful friendships made at Stream Road".

Of course, we will miss them both and are grateful for all they have contributed to the life of our church.

He now intends, with Gill, to attach himself to Kingsway Church, Wombourne – a partner of LBC (Love Black Country) which is an interdenominational Christian charity.

We wish them well as they embark on this new season in their journey with God.

If anyone wishes to read John's full account, please request a copy from Richard.

We are pilgrims on a journey,

And companions on the road;

We are here to help each other

Walk the mile and bear the load.

Friendship Group

Sadly, due to falling numbers, members of the Friendship Group have decided to cease meeting at KMC. However, they hope to continue to get together for lunch out.

We give thanks for the Friendship Group's existence here over the past 60 years and for love and fellowship shared.

We are grateful for those who have organised it – particularly to Joyce in recent years.

Men's Group

On **Wednesday 1 July** the Men's Group will be meeting at **7.00 pm** in the Red Room at church for a 'bring and share' Faith Supper.

There will be no meeting in August.

Contact: richardwalters964@icloud.com



Nancy and Richard
June 5th 2026
Congratulations!!



Second and Fourth Saturday Prayers

July 11th and 25th at 9.00 am in the Parlour

or follow the link on the website to join via Zoom

There are no Saturday Prayers during August

We will meet again on 12th and 26th of September

Come and join us as we pray for individuals, our church and circuit, the community we serve and situations across the world. You can also join by participating in the Prayer Chain, which receives requests via WhatsApp or email. If you or someone you know needs prayer, please send requests to Melanie via the contact details on the last page.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9.

Those who attended the recent General Church Meeting will know that there are several “vacancies” which sustain church life and which need to be filled if we are to sustain the work of God in this place. There is a need in the Resourcing Mission Group for property stewards; the Pastoral group needs new visitors; the Church Council needs new representatives from the congregation; the Stewards group needs expansion, and there is also a need for people willing to attend the circuit meeting on our behalf.

It would be easy to feel weary reading the list of needs, but instead, let us give that weariness and need to God in prayer. Philippians 4:6 says *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let all your requests be known to God.*

This magazine is a double issue – the next will mark the beginning of a new Methodist year – so a call to prayer during this time. Pray that God will ease our anxieties, relieve our weariness and call to us those whose gifts and talents will fill the gaps and join us in sustaining and growing the work of God in this place.

The mission of Black Country Foodbank is **‘to feed local people in crisis’**. They help vulnerable individuals and families in crisis through the provision of 3 days emergency food supplies while a longer-term solution is developed. The services they provide have an enormous impact on the people who use them, giving them an important breathing space at a time of great need.

Thank you to everyone who provided donations in June.

The following items are currently in short supply. Please consider these urgent requirements alongside your usual donations.

Long life milk	Toothpaste and toothbrush
1 litre cartons of long life fruit juice	
Small jars of coffee	
Tinned meat (hot dogs/corned beef)	Bars of soap
Tinned vegetables	
Packets of mashed potato	Roll-on deodorant
Tinned fruit	
Jars of pasta sauce / cooking sauce	Shower gel
Breakfast cereal	
Rice	
Cup a Soups	

BCFB cannot accept out of date food or food items containing alcohol.

How to donate financially

Website - donate on the website www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk

Bank transfer - Sortcode: 40-11-55, Account No: 30116548

Mobile phone - You can text **BCFOODBANK** to **70085** to donate £5.



On **July 6th** we will be showing a film to complement our recent bible study about the environment.

“The 50-minute film, [The People’s Emergency Briefing](#), presents the latest evidence on the climate crisis in an accessible format and features interviews by leading experts with reaction by members of the public and celebrities.”

A coalition of the UK’s major church denominations and Christian organisations are backing the screening of the film and we are inviting other local churches to join us.

The film will start promptly at 7.30pm to allow time afterwards for a drink and short discussion before finishing at 9pm. Please do consider coming along.

Our world is very precious – we need to know as much about it as possible and seek to look after it.

**Think of a world without any flowers,
Think of a world without any trees,
Think of a sky without any sunshine,
Think of the air without any breeze.**

It doesn’t bear thinking about!!!

How should we live? – Bob Allaway

Introducing Stanley Hauerwas

Although we are 100% committed to this church, Sylvia and I are really Baptists rather than Methodists. Nevertheless, the living theologian who is possibly the most influential on my life and thought is a Methodist minister ... though, as we shall see, he has influenced people from a huge range of theological backgrounds. Given that he is a Methodist, I wonder how many of you have heard of him?

One reason that I appreciate Stanley Hauerwas's writing is that he is very down-to-earth, and this is no doubt because of his background. He was brought up in Texas. He once commented that, as a Texan Methodist, he had been through enough 'revivals' to last a lifetime!

He paid his way through university by working in his holidays as a labourer in his father's building firm (and he was expected to work as hard as the others if he wanted to receive decent pay like them).

As his father's labourers were Black, this also meant that he befriended them and mixed with them socially, in a way that was unusual for White Texans at that time.

While he does not make a big thing of it, his personal life has had many pastoral challenges. His son developed severe epilepsy as a young adult, while his wife's mental illness caused her to behave in a most embarrassing way, and eventually to take her own life. Having known God supporting him through these trials, he has been able to support others facing challenging times.

Hauerwas is an ethicist, someone concerned with Christian behaviour. His are what are termed 'virtue ethics': concerned with developing Christian character rather than simply obeying rules. (I would put our own Andrew Roberts in the same circle). His teaching is respected way beyond Methodism. The leading Roman Catholic university in the USA employed him to teach ethics. His second wife is an Episcopalian (Anglican) minister, so he now worships with her church.

But his greatest popularity has been among the heirs of the Anabaptists, such as Mennonites (through whom I learnt of him), who share his stress on following Jesus. For example, he questions how a Christian can carry a weapon (which does not go down well in the gun obsessed USA!). When the most famous and widely read modern Mennonite theologian was revealed to have behaved inappropriately towards his female students, the college authorities called in Hauerwas to sort him out.

I recently bought a short anthology of extracts from his writings: “*Jesus Changes Everything – a new world made possible*”. Do ask me if you would like to borrow it.

Feed My Sheep

The next Feed My Sheep lunches will be on **Sundays 5 July and 2 August at 1.00 pm.**

Feed My Sheep meals are for those who would otherwise normally eat alone on a Sunday. They are completely free.

If you would like to attend the next meal or any meals in the future (they happen once a month, normally on the first Sunday) please contact Megan (details on the back page).



Coffee & Cake



Conversation



&



Friendship



10am until 12 noon

7th and 21st July

4th and 18th August



Alz Café
WOLVERHAMPTON

Coffee and Craft



Come with your craft project (or not!) and
enjoy a coffee (or tea!) and natter.

Saturdays 4th July, 1st Aug & 5th Sept

10:30 – 12:00

Refugee Week – Monday 15th June to Sunday June 21st 2026

This year's Refugee Week takes the theme "Courage" and marks 75 years since the establishment of the Refugee Convention. The convention defines the term 'refugee' as *a person forced to flee their home country to escape war, violence, or persecution*, and it outlines their rights and international standards of treatment for their protection. Refugees are in extremely vulnerable circumstances. They lack protection from their own countries. They face challenges to their safety and well-being. A key principle of the convention is that a refugee should not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life and freedoms. The convention also defines the obligations of Refugees to host countries and specifies who does not qualify for refugee status (War criminals, for example).

Jesus, who with his family was forced to escape the violence of King Herod, knew the experience of a refugee, and in Exodus 23:9, God reminds the Israelites to care for the refugee, saying: *Do not treat outsiders badly. You yourselves know how it feels to be outsiders. Remember, you were outsiders in Egypt.*

The world currently faces a significant challenge from the Refugee crisis, with estimates of their number ranging from 36 to 43 million people. There are no easy solutions. Last year, as a church family, we made a small but impactful difference by gifting bags of school supplies to students who had been forced to flee their homes and found themselves 'outsiders' in what for them is a challenging school system.

The Outreach group would like to repeat this project so that 30 bags can be ready to go when the new school year begins in September. If you wish to help, cash donations can be given to Debbie, or there will be sign-up sheets in the link during June for stationery items and sweets to be included in the bags. Many thanks in anticipation.

Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir – John Mearman

Studio Two Abbey Road Studios - Monday 15th June 2026

The Beatles, Shirley Bassey, Kate Bush, Oasis, Massive Attack, Adele
..... and many many more

These are giants of the music world that have made recordings at Abbey Road which are now joined by no less than our own Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir.

The date is 15th June 2026 , the time is 6.30 am - which is when around 50 members of the GSMVC boarded their coach for the journey to the legendary recording studios in London. This was the culmination of several weeks of preparation for the choir's recording of the Black Country Anthem.

Having already received media interest in this project, the choir were joined on the journey by a reporter and cameraman from the BBC as it is their intention to cover the project up to and including the release of the single at Merry Hill Centre on 1st July at 4 pm.

The record release is to raise money for Maggie's Cancer Care, who are planning to open four new centres in the West Midlands in the next couple of years. Fundraising is going well, with a number of sponsors and a Just Giving page has been set up for this purpose. More information is available at <https://maggies.org>.

The choir arrived at ARS around 10 am and - after registration and security checks - we were admitted to Studio 2, which is a large but quite basic room. After instructions as to how the day was to progress - including the use of headphones for each chorister - we started the process of recording.

After several hours of recording attempts the ARS team and the choir's wonderful MD, Ray Curran, declared success and the Black Country Anthem was "in the can". The choir also recorded three other songs - Nessun Dorma, Bridge Over Troubled Water and Moon River - all of which are being given the recording studio magic.

ARS was opened in 1931 by Sir Edward Elgar and is a mecca for music fans worldwide which is witnessed by people with their names on every available wall space.

And, of course we joined the crowds who wanted their photo taken on the famous pedestrian crossing featured on The Beatles Abbey Road Album released in 1969.



We arrived back at KMC at about 10 pm having enjoyed a wonderful experience which hopefully will result in a good result for a fantastic cause.

The Black Country Anthem

I vow to thee Black Country, England's engine room and soul
Your equality, your diversity, you're my beating heart of home.

A place without pretension, that lingers long inside
To be championed and heralded and glorified worldwide.

Birthplace of graft and industry and darkened skies above
With our cultures, creeds and families, our humanity and love.

And there's another country I've heard of long ago
With seeds of a community that nurtures all to grow.

And know that my Black Country has far from won its race
Many challenges as before, for its ever-changing face.

This place was rough and ready, but it held fair place inside
With its ladies, lords and gentlemen of love and family pride.

The tenets that moulded us, must once more be embraced
So our children can be sure it remains a loving place.

I vow to thee Black Country, England's engine room and soul
Your equality, your diversity, you're my beating heart of home.



60th Church Anniversary Concert - **Ann Jackson**



A huge thank you to the **Gentlemen Songsters Choir** for accepting our invitation to host a concert as part of our 60th Birthday celebrations, a special time in our Church's life. It was great to see our Church so full to overflowing with many visitors, old friends and regular worshippers in attendance.

Everyone agreed it was very enjoyable for all and the choir sang some popular Male Voice Choir pieces, including some more recent songs with a modern twist!! To mention just a few: Bohemian Rhapsody, Some Enchanted Evening, Aberystwyth, Nessum Dorma and Black Country Anthem (the Choir will be recording their own version at Abbey Road Studios, London, on Monday 15th June). The repertoire also included a solo, duet plus a Barber Shop song, which was delivered amusingly and appealing! All professionally conducted by Musical Director, Ray Curran, accompanied by choir pianist Neil Bolton.



The evening concluded with refreshments, including 200+ home-baked cakes, all of which allowed us to socialise with each other before heading home.

I would like to add a huge thank you in appreciation to everyone who tirelessly contributed to produce such a memorable evening as part of our 60th Birthday celebrations.

Rainbows Brownies

Guiding Evening – Tuesday 16 June

Karen Edwards

A big thank you for support given to our open night to celebrate the church's birthday.

A fun, chaotic evening was had by all – it seemed to go well and raised over £200 for church funds.



We had a raffle, children's fair games, bring and buy - and there were lots of photos and guiding memorabilia for people to see.



The girls had made table decorations and enjoyed singing guiding songs on the stage, including: Guiding Light, Ging Gang Goolie, Campfire's Burning... just to name a few.

A big thank you to Megan, Stuart, Melanie, Richard, Margaret S, Judith and Deb for coming to join us.

All Age Service

Sunday 12th July



Meekness ... not weakness



Worship group leading songs from 10am



Formal start at 10.30am

Rainbows & Brownies Parade Service



All-Age Service

Sunday 9th August



Bee Blessed



Worship group leading songs from 10am



Formal start at 10.30am

Relaxed and family friendly!



Circuit News – July/August

Circuit Ramblers



19th July – 2.00 pm from

Rita's -16 Sherwood Road, Wollaston, DY8

4PN followed by Tea in the Garden at 3.00 pm.

Donations to the Paul Ackrill Fund. (All welcome to come just for tea).



Other walks:

4th July - Amblecote Wordsley Coffee Morning

No details available for August. Walk details from: Margaret Steven

Tel: 07986 566134

Thanks for the Memories – Amblecote Wordsley MC Music & Singing for Wellbeing



A monthly Sunday afternoon singing of favourite songs from the past and from musicals. We are a dementia-friendly choir for anybody who wants to reminisce, sing old songs or simply wants something to do on a Sunday afternoon. It is open to all-comers, not just church-goers. If you like singing and fun, why not join us?

Sunday 26th July and Sunday 23rd August.

Light refreshments from 3.30 pm. Singing: 4.00-5.00 pm

All are welcome. Free entry.

Eden Toddler Group – SMC Gig Mill

All are welcome to pop in with babies and toddlers to a Toddler Group at Stourbridge Methodist Church Gig Mill every Friday morning, 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

Admission £1.50.

Check first with Amy on 07561 880938 that details are correct.



Time for Tea at SMC Gig Mill for tea and conversation on **Tuesday 7 July and Tuesday 4 August, 2.30-4.00pm**

Everyone is welcome, come along and make some new friends



Concert by ACCORD – “Transported by Music” - Amblecote Wordsley Methodist Church at 7.00 pm on Monday 10 August. Tickets: £6 to include a light supper. Tickets from Margaret Kite – 01384 392310.

Circuit Farewell Service for Rev Michael and Anita Payne and Rev Christine Watson – Sunday 12 July at 6.00 pm at Stourbridge Methodist Church New Road. A tea will be served from 4.00 pm. Parking available on Argus Fire car park on the corner of Worcester Street.

The **Local Preachers’ Accreditation Service** for **Melanie Walters** will take place on **Sunday 19 July at 4.00 pm** at **Kingswinford Methodist Church**. We are delighted that Melanie has successfully completed her studies and training. We wish her every blessing for the future. The service will be led by Rev Alan Combes and Rev Jem. Tea/coffee and cake will follow after the service. All are welcome.

Circuit Welcome Service for Rev Rachel Moss – Sunday 30 August at 3.00 pm at **Stourbridge Methodist Church New Road** led by the **Chair of West Midlands District, Rev Rachel Deigh**. A tea will follow after the service. Parking available on Argus Fire car park on the corner of Worcester Street.

Bloom is the West Midlands District’s brand-new festival taking place on **Saturday 4 July, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm** at **Trinity Methodist Church, Codsall WV8 2ER**. The day will bring together people from across the district for worship, creativity, conversation, workshops, community and much more, all centred around this year’s theme: *Rooted and Growing*. All ages welcome.

Celebration of Ministry and Retirement for Rev Novette Headley – Saturday 25 July at 3.00 pm – Coventry Central Hall. An afternoon of celebration, worship, fellowship and food. Please RSVP by Saturday 11 July to enable catering to be organised (Tel: 0330 520 1250)

July Services

	10:30 am	6:00 pm
5 th	Bob Allaway Holy Communion	
12 th	All-age Team All-age worship ItL leading worship from 10am	
19 th	Andy Haynes	NB 4.00 pm Recognition service for Melanie Walters led by Rev Alan Combes
26 th	Jane Artist plus KYC activities in the Hall ItL leading worship from 10am	Rev Jem Hawkins Holy Communion

Evening Services elsewhere in the Circuit:

5th July – SMC New Road– 6.00 pm - Rev Michael Payne
A service of Townend and Getty hymns

12th July - SMC New Road - 6.00 pm
Circuit Farewell Service for
Rev Michael and Anita Payne
and Rev Chris Watson

Tea will be served from 4.00 pm. Parking available on Argus Fire car park on the corner of Worcester Street.

August Services

	10:30 am	6:00 pm
2 nd	Rev Andrew Sankey Holy Communion	
9 th	All Age Team All Age worship ItL leading worship from 10 am	
16 th	Margaret Bradley	
23 rd	Martyn Rider ItL leading worship from 10 am	
30 th	Super Sunday	

Evening/afternoon services elsewhere in the Circuit:

9th August – Rev Andrew Roberts – Kinver Praise

30th August – SMC New Road at 3.00 pm

Circuit Welcome service

for Rev Rachel Moss

Super Sunday

Sunday 30th August



10.30am—Creative worship for all ages

July Rotas

Foodbank

5th July	Colin Russ	19th July	Jane Artist
12th July	Stuart Ashmore	26th July	John Mearman

After-service coffee/tea

5th July	(in church) Jocelyn Arch, Jane Stokes, Esther Homer
12th July	Celia Miskin, Lynda Johnson
19th July	Into the Light, Jean Whitehouse
26th July	Bob and Edna Drake, Paula Durrant

We would always be happy to hear from anyone else who would like to join the after-service coffee/tea rota

Meet & Greet

5th July	Sylvia Allaway, Carol Pearson, Jocelyn Arch
12th July	Diane and Iain Robertson, Margaret Shuttleworth
19th July	Edna and Bob Drake, Sam Hawkins
26th July	Sylvia Allaway, Sue Wilson

Jane Artist would always be happy to hear from anyone else who would like to join the Meet & Greet team

Tea Towel Washing

July	Debbie Westwood
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The Tea Towel washing rota for 2026 is currently complete and on the wall in the kitchen! Thank you to all those who have agreed to serve in this way.

August Rotas

Foodbank

2nd August	Rod Worthington	23rd August	Paula Durrant
9th August	Sue & John Miller	30th August	Colin Russ
16th August	Melanie Walters		

After-service coffee/tea

2nd August	(in church) Debbie Westwood, George and Judith Tyler
9th August	Celia Miskin, Lynda Johnson
16th August	Into the Light, Jean Whitehouse
23rd August	Jocelyn Arch, Jane Stokes, Esther Homer
30th August	Debbie Westwood, George and Judith Tyler

Meet & Greet

2nd August	Ann Mearman, Paula Durrant, Betty Payne
9th August	Margaret Shuttleworth, Carol Pearson, Jocelyn Arch
16th August	Ann Mearman, Sue Wilson
23rd August	Edna and Bob Drake
30th August	Diane and Iain Robertson, Sylvia Allaway

Jane Artist would always be happy to hear from anyone else who would like to join the Meet & Greet team

Tea Towel Washing

August	Betty Payne
September	Sue Wilson

The Tea Towel washing rota for 2026 is currently complete and on the wall in the kitchen! Thank you to all those who have agreed to serve in this wa

General Knowledge Quiz

1.	Which is the oldest college at Cambridge?	
2.	Who was the wife of Lord Baden-Powell, with whom he founded the Girl Guide Movement?	
3.	Which is the most common type of accident in the home?	
4.	How many Earthmen have walked on the surface of the moon?	
5.	What type of stone is the Star of India?	
6.	Which of the following derives its name from the Greek word meaning 'wandering'? <i>Diatom; krill; plankton or seaweed?</i>	
7.	Who is the only clean-shaven member of Snow White's seven dwarves?	
8.	The frozen body of what kind of extinct creature was discovered in Siberia in October 1999?	
9.	In 1987, a 19-year-old with approximately 25 hours of flying experience landed a rented Cessna in Red Square, Moscow. What was his nationality?	
10.	What would a native American Indian refer to as a papoose?	

Solution to 30 hidden books of the Bible puzzle

This is a **most remarkable** puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, **keeping** him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his **John**-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his **banjo**. **Elaine** Taylor, a columnist friend, was so **#** intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend **judges** the **job** of solving this puzzle so involving that **she brews** a cup of tea to help her nerves. **There** will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a **fact**. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a **jam**, **especially** since the books are not necessarily capitalised.

Truthfully, **from answers** we get, we are forced to admit **it usually** takes a minister or scholar to see some of them **at the worst**. Research has shown that something in our **genes is** responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs.

During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta **Phi-Lemonade** booth set a new sales record. The local paper, the **Chronicle**, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As **Daniel** Humana **humbly** puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight."

Those able to find all of them will hear great **lamentations** from those who have to be shown. One **revelation** that may help is that books **Timothy** and **Samuel** appear without their **numbers**.

Also, keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are **normal**. **A chipper** attitude will help you **compete** really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass **exodus**. There really are 30 books of the Bible **lurking** somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.

A Candle of Peace

Provided by Margaret Wood

*Light a candle of peace for all nations
And watch as it steadily burns.
Remember the brave fallen heroes –
Those who will never return.*

*In the quietness, pray for all families,
Wherever they are in the world.
Whose lives have been scarred by violence and pain,
As the banners of battle unfurled.*

*Light a candle of peace for all races,
All cultures and creeds of mankind,
Ask God to touch every heart with his love
So, in days to come we will find
Peace for the whole world over,
No longer a dream or a prayer,
But something to last to the end of all time.
For the great heart of God will be there.*



Let's end with a Loff

When children write to their minister

Dear Vicar

- I know God loves everybody, but then he never met my sister. Yours sincerely Arnold (aged 8)
- Please say in your sermon that Peter Peterson has been a good boy all week. I am Peter Peterson. Sincerely Pete (aged 9)
- My mother should be a minister. Every day she gives me a sermon about something. Robert (aged 11)
- My father said I should learn the Ten Commandments. But I don't think I want to because we have enough rules already in my house. Joshua (aged 10)
- I would like to go to heaven some day because I know my brother won't be there. Stephen (aged 8)
- I hope to go to heaven some day, but later rather than sooner. Love Ellen (aged 9)
- Please say a prayer for our school football team. We need God's help or a new goalkeeper! Thank you. Alexander (aged 10)
- I liked your sermon on Sunday – especially when it was finished. Ralph (aged 11)

Church Activities and Contacts

Bible Study: Mondays at 7.30 pm – In the worship space

Contact: Melanie - 07852 251581 or walters.m.j@me.com

Coffee & Conversation: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10.00 am to 12 noon – Hall

Contact: Melanie - 07852 251581 or walters.m.j@me.com

Coffee and Craft: 1st Saturdays 10.30 am to 12 noon – Red Room

Contact: Diane (diane.robertson@blueyonder.co.uk)

Feed my Sheep: 1st Sundays at 1.00 pm – Hall

Contact: Megan - 07904 502365 or megan@ashfam.co.uk

Into the Light: Some Fridays at 6.30 pm – Church

Contact: John - 07811 412355 or jmearman@hotmail.com

KYC (Young Church): Sunday mornings – 10.30 am – Church/Hall

Contact: Megan - 07904 502365 or megan@ashfam.co.uk

Men's Group: Usually 1st Wednesdays in the evening

Contact: Richard - richardwalters964@icloud.com

Prayers: 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 9.00 am – Parlour or on Zoom

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