

MINISTER

Rev Al Lowe

07478 670953

CHURCH MOBILE for room bookings etc

07895 711323

(leave message/text and we'll get back to you)

E-MAIL

[thecornerstone1795@gmail.com](mailto:thecornerstone1795@gmail.com)

MONTHLY NOTICES (& weekly if/when required)

Brenda Noone

[bn.torp@gmail.com](mailto:bn.torp@gmail.com)



CORNERSTONE CHURCH, 15 FORE STREET, TORPOINT, CORNWALL, PL11 2AB

LOOP SYSTEM INSTALLED FOR HARD OF HEARING

Website: <http://pencirrus.co.uk/Cornerstone/index.htm>

and on FACEBOOK



*Cornerstone Church - Torpoint*  
*NEWSLETTER*



**FEBRUARY 2026**



## The Torpoint Compassionate Café

offers a friendly space for people to gain support who are bereaved/living with loss or who are caring for someone with a terminal or life limiting illness or long-term health condition



MEETS EVERY 1st and 3rd MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
AT THE TORPOINT MOSQUITO SAILING CLUB  
between 12.30-14.00

(No need to be a member or to book)  
Email: [TorpointCompassionatecafé@gmail.com](mailto:TorpointCompassionatecafé@gmail.com);  
[facebook@Torpointcompassionatecafé](https://www.facebook.com/Torpointcompassionatecafé)

FREE REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



No-one scored full marks this year but the highest scoring entry with only one incorrect answer was from Enid May. Well done her & everyone! Thanks again to Peter Edwards for compiling and marking the quiz.

## ANSWERS FROM LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

- 1 What is the name of the Scottish national park region NE of Loch Lomond? *The Trossachs*
- 2 Who composed the 19th Century piece, 'Air on a G String'? *J S Bach*
- 3 What was the surname of the US newspaper tycoon, William Randolph, born in 1863? *Hearst*
- 4 What is the term given to a pocket watch chain? *Fob*
- 5 What is a dotterel? *Bird*
- 6 What is the firing mechanism in a car engine called? *Ignition*
- 7 Porgy and Bess is a 1935 opera by which composer? *George Gershwin*
- 8 Which is the national book town (NBT) of Wales? *Hay on Wye*
- 9 What is a native of England, Wales or Scotland called? *British*
- 10 From which country does the Fandango dance originate? *Spain*
- 11 Which island-based TV series stars Matthew Fox as a plane crash survivor? *Lost*
- 12 What name links an Israeli port with an orange? *Jaffa*
- 13 Julia Roberts co-starred with which actor in the 1990 film, Pretty Woman? *Richard Gere*
- 14 Which Lewis Carroll character gave a tea party? *The Mad Hatter*
- 15 What was the name of Michael Crawford's character in 'Some Mothers do 'Ave 'Em'? *Frank Spencer*
- 16 What is the main ingredient of Paella? *Rice*
- 17 Which independent country once part of the British Raj is formally known as the Union of Myanmar? *Burma*
- 18 On which river does Dusseldorf stand? *Rhine*
- 19 Which town on Romney Marsh is the site of London Ashford Airport? *Lydd*
- 20 Who wrote The Day of the Jackal (1971)? *Frederick Forsyth*

**URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD & OTHER ITEMS, listed in order of urgency: (as at 25 January)**

- **Tinned Veg (especially potatoes)**
- **Tinned spaghetti**
- **Baked beans**
- **Instant noodles**



**WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF BOTTLES OF SQUASH & TENA PADS**

**Thank you**

**ALSO NEEDED (FOR COOKING PACKS): MIXED HERBS, CURRY POWDER, CHILLI POWDER, GARLIC GRANULES & PLAIN FLOUR.**

Food is distributed from a room at the side entrance of **Cornerstone Church**, Quarry Street. Sessions are from 09.30-12.30 on Wednesdays.

Foodbank currently need helpers and anyone wishing to volunteer would be most welcome. Please pop into a session for further information.

**LETTER FROM THE MINISTER**



Hi

You can always guarantee that Brits will talk about the weather. Well, over recent weeks we've had plenty of weather to talk about. Very early in January we had ice that made walking on pavements very treacherous, then storms, which brought wind damage and flooding. And guess what, the west coast train service was suspended for a while - nothing new. There's also been snow which has kept schools closed. I'm gutted because we've had only one Park Run so far this year. But amazingly, the combination of rain and sun has also provided some opportunity to see rainbows. However, increasingly, our lives are being impacted by changes in the weather, in a negative way.

In the midst of all this, some churches have been holding their covenant services in which we recognise our relationship with God and our place within that relationship. A covenant which starts with God's promise to Noah that he will not flood the world again, and uses a rainbow as a sign of God's promise. For some, who have been flooded out recently or whose houses have been crushed by falling trees, I can understand them saying, where is God in all of this? Or when you look at wider issues of fighting in Ukraine, or ICE in America, tensions in Iran and Israel, similar questions arise.

But in all these events, it is not God who is the source of suffering, but we humans. We humans vote or support particular leaders, we humans provoke one another to fight, we humans continue to devastate our environment to the point it threatens our food supply. It still strikes me as ironic that air passengers complain about flights being cancelled due to bad weather, without connecting their flight to their cancellation. It's not so much as where is God in all of this, but why does God allow it to happen? Why does God allow humans to do this to one another and the planet? An answer is, free will.

God's covenant is not one of compulsion, but one of invitation, we are given free will. You cannot compel someone to love you; that's not love. Let us remember that covenant with God involves making choices, so that every time we make a choice, it is part of that relationship we have with God. Every time we buy something, every time we choose to travel, every time we choose to forgive, are opportunities to put our covenant promise into practice.

Choose well. AI



## NOTICES FROM SANDRA:



### February - Grant Applications & Donations Update

All **donations** received are recorded in our 'Thermometer' chart, which is displayed in the church doorway. See the current total there, standing at **£14,500**;

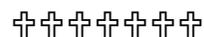
**We were awarded £10,000 in December by the National Churches Trust;**

**We were awarded £17,219 by the URC SW District Property team in December;**

**We were awarded £500 Warm Welcome Grant from the SW Methodist District Fund in January;**

In early December an application went to the Heritage Lottery Fund who aim to reply by late January/early February;  
In early January an application went to the Garfield Weston Foundation.

There is good news once again this month,



### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TORPOINT

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2 pm

St James' Church

World Day of Prayer service prepared by women in Nigeria

Entitled: 'I will give you rest'

*All Welcome*

7th March

Christian Aid Coffee Morning

## FEBRUARY SUNDAY SERVICES (10.30am unless otherwise stated) AND DUTY HELPERS

DATE	PREACHER	WELCOMER	VESTRY	OPENING PRAYER
1st	Mike Cade	Marie Luscombe	Sandra Pratt	SP
8th	Rev Colin Phipps	Ann Dean	Chris Cross	June Stockton
15th	Rev Dan Haylett (Chair of District)	Paulene Smith	Brenda Noone	BN
22nd	Rev Darren Middleton (Holy Communion)	Margaret Harrison	Steve Martin	SM

## SOME THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."  
**Wayne Dyer**

"If you want happiness for an hour — take a nap.'  
If you want happiness for a day — go fishing.  
If you want happiness for a year — inherit a fortune.  
If you want happiness for a lifetime — help someone else."  
**Chinese Proverb**

"Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony."  
**Mahatma Gandhi**

"Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow. It only saps today of its joy."  
**Leo Buscaglia**

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbour. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."  
**Mark Twain**



## DUTY LISTS

As with all the duty rosters, if any date is inconvenient please arrange your own swap. Thank you / BN

<b>FLOWER ROTA DONATIONS - FEBRUARY</b>	
1st	<i>Vacant</i>
8th	<i>Vacant</i>
15th	<i>Vacant</i>
22nd	<i>Vacant</i>



**PLEASE see Marie if you would like to make a donation towards the flowers displayed in church.**

<b>SUNDAY COFFEE ROTA - FEBRUARY</b>	
1st	June Stockton & Jan Hall
8th	June Stockton & Paulene Smith
15th	June Stockton & Lorna Wilkins
22nd	June Stockton & Jan Hall



Assistance is always required to make things easier for our few helpers, so please speak to June Stockton if you can help with teas/coffees/washing up. Even the odd occasion will be much appreciated by the team.  
*Thank you*

## Church Membership

Thank God we have had a handful of lovely new friends join our congregation this last twelve months. If any of you who are not yet members wish to talk about becoming members, please see Sandra or Al. This extends to anyone whether you have joined us in 2025 or much earlier. While membership of itself does not bring extra work, it does bring voting rights in decision making meetings. The new year is a good time to think about who we want to be living and working with and for in 2026.

God bless you all in the year ahead,

*Sandra*

## Churches Together Lent Groups

These will run for five sessions from Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February. We hope to get leaders from churches rejoining Churches Together to lead each session. Pulling together dates is not finalised yet. March meetings will be confirmed in the next newsletter.

**The first lent session is: 7pm, 25<sup>th</sup> February, St James Church Hall**



## HOUSE GROUP

In February we meet at 3.30pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>

All welcome - see Sandra if you have any questions.



**Bible Study at Stoke Christian Centre:**  
10.30am for a 10.45 start on Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> February  
led by Rev Edgar Daniel .

Stoke Christian Centre

# Writing for Wellbeing

Guided writing exercises designed for reflection

Space to think and time to write

Tea, coffee, and community

Obligation free

Every Friday  
Stoke Christian Centre  
10am - 12pm

Optional refreshments available after session

## ? QUIZ TIME

- 1 Daryl Hannah played a mermaid in which 1984 film?
- 2 Which international agency aims to improve youngsters' health and education?
- 3 What nationality was the poet, Dylan Thomas?
- 4 Vienna was a hit for which 1980s band?
- 5 Who starred as Derek Zoolander in the Zoolander films?
- 6 What term is given to the frilly collar associated with the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods?
- 7 What flower is worn as a symbol of remembrance up to 11th November in the UK?
- 8 Who wrote the 1867 work *Das Kapital Vol 1* ?
- 9 King Charles is a variety of which breed of dog?
- 10 What collective name is used for large calibre guns used in land warfare?
- 11 What is the medical name for the breastbone?
- 12 In book-keeping what is an entry in an account of a sum owing?
- 13 The Golden Temple is in which holy city of the Punjab?
- 14 Which actor starred opposite Jennifer Lawrence in the film *Silver Linings Playbook*?
- 15 The herb Rosemary usually has what colour flowers?
- 16 Who played Perry Mason on TV in the 1960s and 1970s?
- 17 The 1869 novel *Lorna Doone* was written by which author?
- 18 What was the nationality at birth of Olympic gymnast, Nadia Comaneci?
- 19 Osaka is a city in which country?
- 20 What is the first name of Donald Trump's eldest daughter?



**CAFÉ ABUNDANCE**

**Lunch at 12.30pm in St James' Church Hall**

**Monday 9th February**

**(PAY WHAT YOU CAN)**



**2-COURSE VALENTINE LUNCH**

**AT ST JAMES' CHURCH**

**12.30PM MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY**

**Tickets—£8**



**PRAYERS FOR OUR TOWN**

Even though there is no longer a monthly street leaflet drop, as all of Torpoint has been covered, please remember the folk within your own street, and the people of the town in general, in your prayers.

*With thanks to Chris and Lynn for their work now that they are having a well-deserved rest!*



**Finance**

	OFFERTORY	BENEVOLENT FUND	TUESDAY & SUNDAY COFFEES
December 21st	£264.70		£8.00
December 28th	£407.55		£11.36
January 4th	£418.00		£16.92
January 11th	£369.00		£6.40
January 25th	£439.00	£4.00	£4.08

**GIFT AID & ENVELOPE SCHEME:** As Sandra mentions on her page we have many new friends meeting with us each week now. We have an Envelope Scheme here in Cornerstone. If you pay Income Tax then please consider using Gift Aid. When you pay Income Tax it enables us to claim the tax you paid on the sum you have given.

I will have Gift Aid forms available anytime you ask. All the form needs is your name, address and postcode. You will need to use our church Envelopes. Only one person knows what you donate and that is me. (Those counting the offering do not know whose envelope they are opening unless you use a cheque). I can then claim the tax back on behalf of the Church. Currently that is £25.00 for every hundred you donate. Last year we were able to claim back £3,383.88. This year due to the Repair Fund donations received we will be able to claim a much higher figure.

If you have any queries regarding Gift Aid then please speak to me. Brenda will also be able to answer queries you may have. The most important thing you need to know is that you must have paid enough Income Tax to cover your offering. I have envelopes with me to enable you to start now, or you can start in April, the new Tax Year.

**PLEASE USE GIFT AID IF YOU PAY ENOUGH INCOME TAX.**

Many thanks *Liz*

CALENDAR REPRODUCED IN SEPARATE DOCUMENT