

LYNDON MAGAZINE



**MARCH &
APRIL 2026**

Lyndon Methodist Church



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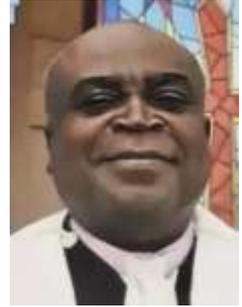
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The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Ministerial team or the Editor

MINISTER'S LETTER

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT III

For a genuine authentic and satisfying walk with Christ we need the Holy Spirit working actively in our lives. It would seem as if we were belabouring the topic of the Holy Spirit, talking about the “Holy Spirit in every article since I started to write for this magazine”. However, I am convinced that the Holy Spirit at work in the believer’s life is a crucial critical central matter that needs to be emphasized and reemphasized until we know that we can **DO NOTHING WITHOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT**.



Apostle Paul admonishes us: “Do not be drunk with wine but be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Eph 5.18. Paul contrasts being “filled with the Holy Spirit” to being drunk with wine. When a person is drunk with wine, all their behaviour is under the control of alcohol (an abominable thing). In contrast, when a person is filled with the Spirit the behaviour controlled by the Spirit is fragrant, and heavenly. The life of a true Christian must be under the continual influence of the Holy Spirit, so we continue with the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer’s life. In our last article we learned that the Holy Spirit is our helper and teacher and one who reminds us of the word of Christ. So, lets continue exploring the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer in Christ.

The Holy Spirit “shows us the things of God”. Consider the scripture below:

He (the Holy Spirit) will glorify me, (Christ) for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. John 16.14-15

The Holy Spirit makes the things of God (spiritual realities) pragmatic to us. Without the help of the Holy Spirit, you can hear a lot of stuff from the Bible, and it will be mere intellectual stuff that hardly applies to your practical day to day life. Now read the scripture below:

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.....

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 1Cor 2. 12 & 14

Did you catch that? The things of God (as written in the Holy Scriptures) don’t mean anything to us! Indeed they may even seem foolish to us until the Blessed Spirit illuminates our minds and hearts. Only then do we know the reality of all that is written. We will understand clearly that they are not just for first century Christians only. We will not regard them as outdated (as many so-called modern Christians do), instead we see them to be a present and vital reality and they work in our lives. That is when we see the miraculous take place in our lives.

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the

Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. John 15. 26-27

The Messiah came to earth in lowly birth, of poor parentage and was a humble carpenter until he was filled with the Holy Spirit and then he shocked his listeners with the most astonishing statements about himself. He claimed he came down from heaven! He claimed he existed before Abraham! Can you imagine that? Abraham lived about two thousand years before Jesus was born on earth, and he claimed he existed before Abraham!! When he was just a little over thirty years of age he claimed a time is to come when he will judge all of humanity! No wonder some people labelled him as MAD! The truth of the matter is this: Unless the Holy Spirit bears witness of Jesus to you, and reveals to your inner being who Jesus really is, you will never know who he is. It's one thing to know Jesus intellectually. It's a different ball game when the Holy Spirit bears witness of him to you. Then you will know that all things were made through him and for him whether visible or invisible, whether they be thrones or principalities or powers or dominions all were made by him and for him. You need the witness of the Holy Spirit for you to submit all your life to the Christ. The apostle Paul says in 1 Cor 12 .3:

Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

It's only by the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the believer that the Lordship of Jesus is recognised. And once we recognise his Lordship, we submit our lives to him in loving obedience - TBC



The trial and crucifixion of Jesus – Prophecy fulfilled

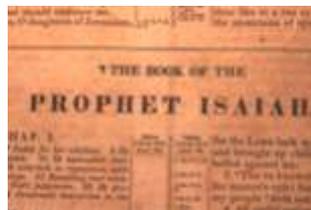
This edition of Outlook covers the whole period of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday 25 February. Therefore, in this article we shall be looking at the fulfilment of prophecy in the trial and crucifixion of our Lord.

Many of the prophecies are to be found in the fourth Servant Song in Isaiah, chapter 53. It can be confusing to understand, as Isaiah wrote as if the events had already taken place, whereas they were prophetic words which were fulfilled centuries later.

Generally, the psalms are not prophetic writings, but the four psalms referred to in this article contain a prophetic element: particularly psalm 22. They were written by David.

Although this Psalm may not have been written by David as a prophecy, we cannot read it without it speaking to us about the Crucifixion. David had probably experienced some great personal suffering which prompted him to write it. In Acts 2 v30 Luke clearly states that David was a prophet and it may well be that it was his prophetic nature which prompted him to develop the psalm as he did, and to include prophetic utterances in the other psalm referred to below.

You may find it helpful to read Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 before proceeding further with this article.



Prophecy

Fulfilment

Prophecy	Fulfilment
<p>Isaiah 53 v7</p> <p><i>He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth, he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v14. Jesus before Pilate.</p> <p><i>But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge.</i></p>
<p>Isaiah 53 v3</p> <p><i>He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering and familiar with pain.</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v29</p> <p><i>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him and twisted a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. They knelt in front of him and mocked him.</i></p>
<p>Psalm 22 v18</p> <p><i>They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garments.</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v35</p> <p><i>When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots.</i></p>

Prophecy**Fulfilment**

<p>Isaiah 53 v12 and Psalm 22 v7</p> <p><i>He poured out his life unto death and was numbered with the transgressors.</i></p> <p><i>All who see me mock me; they hail insults, shaking their heads.</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v38-40</p> <p><i>Two criminals were crucified with him. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads saying “Come down from the cross if you are the son of God”</i></p>
<p>Psalm 69 v21</p> <p><i>They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v34 & 48</p> <p><i>They offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.</i></p> <p>After Jesus had called out to his father in verse 46, we read in verse 48 <i>“Immediately one of them got a sponge and filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink”</i></p>
<p>Psalm 22 v1</p> <p><i>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?</i></p>	<p>Matthew 27 v46</p> <p><i>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?</i></p>
<p>Psalm 31 v5</p> <p><i>Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.</i></p>	<p>Luke 23 v46</p> <p><i>Jesus called out in a loud voice “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit. When he had said this, he breathed his last.</i></p>
<p>Zechariah 12 v10 and Isaiah 53 v5</p> <p><i>They will look on me, the one they have pierced.</i></p> <p><i>But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment which brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.</i></p>	<p>John 19 v33-34</p> <p><i>When they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus’ side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.</i></p>

Prophecy

Fulfilment

Exodus 12 v46 and Psalm 34 v19-20

The righteous person may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all; he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.

John 19 v36

These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled:

“Not one of his bones will be broken,” and as another scripture says, “They will look on the one they have pierced.”

The significance of this goes back to the instructions given to Moses for the killing of the sacrificial lamb to celebrate the Passover. Exodus 12 v46 says “Do not break any of the bones” The lamb was to be in first class condition and had to be offered without blemish or a broken bone.

Jesus was seen as the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for the sins of the world.



Prophecies of Jesus

Luke 18 v 31-33

Jesus said, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, and spit upon him; they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.”

Matthew 26 v32

After I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee. (See John 21)

John 15 v26 and John 16 v7

When the Advocate (Holy Spirit) comes he will testify about me.

Unless I go away the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. (See Acts 2)

Matthew 24 v30

Then will appear the Son of Man in heaven. And all the peoples of the world will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and glory.

All the promises and prophecies which Jesus made have been fulfilled, except his second coming. We can learn from the past that the promises of God are sure, and that time is not of their essence.

It is remarkable to find that so much detail of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus was prophesied so many years earlier. David was writing his psalms 900-1000 years before Jesus, Isaiah was preaching 700 years before Jesus and Zechariah, 500 years before Jesus.

Barry Davis



Saint Etienne (Saint Stephen) church. Stained glass window. The Sanhedrin trial of Jesus.

Tell us, are you the Messiah Annecy. France.

Dear Friends at Lyndon

It has been some time since I wrote to you, but you should know that I think of you all often. David and I now attend a very welcoming church in Leeds and I have made new friends there.

This thought was shared in our church recently and I thought I would like to share it with you all.



Tigger: “You know, Pooh, sometimes I wonder why some people shine so bright.”

Pooh: “Maybe it’s because they spend their light helping others find theirs.”

Tigger: “Helping others shine? That’s a lot of bouncing to do, don’t you think?”

Pooh: “Oh, Tigger, the best kind of shining doesn’t make you tired. It just makes your heart feel full.”

Tigger: “Hmm... so you’re saying the secret isn’t being the brightest — it’s helping others glow too?”

Pooh: “Exactly. Because when you help someone else shine, the whole forest becomes a little brighter.”

Tigger: “You always know how to make things sound simple, Pooh.”

Pooh: “That’s because simple things are often the truest, my friend.”

With love to you all, Wendy.

CHURCH RETREAT



IN HIS PRESENCE

ENGAGING WITH GOD THROUGH

- PRAYER
- BIBLE STUDY
- MEDITATION
- REFLECTION ON HYMNS
- PRAYER WALKS

**SAT. 27TH
JUN 2026**

**9:00 AM
SHARP**

PICK UP LOCATION

LYNDON METHODIST CHURCH
MELTON AVE, SOLIHULL B92 7QX

RETREAT VENUE

KENTS HILL PARK CONFERENCE
CENTRE -TIMBOLD DR, KENTS HILL,
MILTON KEYNES MK7 6BZ

For more info contact:
Rev Dr. Joseph Ribeiro - 0782 456 5983

IT'S FREE

LUNCH PROVIDED

• JOIN US TO FOLLOW SHIP •

West Midlands District Pilgrimage

Easter Week, 5 - 10 April 2026

Are you part of the West Midlands Methodist District? Would you like to pause, connect and deepen your faith journey?

Join us from 5-10 April 2026 for a gentle and reflective pilgrimage. You will connect with a "pilgrim community" of up to 12 people, gathering in Hereford (accessible by train) on the evening of Easter Sunday and finishing in Hereford the following Friday.

During this six-day experience, we will walk, pray and eat together and share sleeping space in a number of Methodist and Anglican Churches. Luggage (including your airbed / camp-bed and bedding) will be transferred each day. Mileage will be around 7 to 11 miles, taken at a gentle pace on rural routes that may include stiles. We will share cooking within the group.

This is now a "tried and tested" formula which has been greatly appreciated by previous pilgrims. Being willing to be part of a short-term community is far more important than being super-fit, providing you can manage a modest amount of walking over a number of consecutive days, followed by nights on a church floor! The pilgrimage will be led by a small team of previous pilgrims.

If means allow, we suggest a contribution of £140 to the kitty to cover food, accommodation and luggage transfer. Unfortunately, the living arrangements mean we cannot include children and young people, though they will be welcome to join us as accompanied day walkers (details later).

Numbers are strictly limited so if you are interested in joining the group this year, please don't delay.

Contact Roger Dunlop to book your space:
roger@telfordmeth.org.uk

Prayer For March & April

Rev Joseph Ribeiro

Please continue to pray for peace across the world. As peace talks, supported by US and European countries, continue between Ukraine and Russia after over 4 years of conflict, we pray that God's influence will be felt by the leaders, guiding them to make the right decisions for all concerned so that peace can finally prevail.



Please pray for those who are affected by natural disasters and issues of climate change which are causing a detrimental effect on their livelihoods and putting many lives at risk. Please also pray for the many charities, agencies and medical personnel who are giving help where possible, often in dangerous situations. May we also strive to do what we can to limit our own negative impact on the world and support these agencies where we can.

We pray for members of our own congregation and in our wider community who are sick or struggling to leave home, those who are anxiously waiting for tests, test results or operations and those who are facing an uncertain future due to job losses, money worries, homelessness etc. We also pray for those that have recently been bereaved. May they all feel our love reaching out to them and feel God's healing and comforting hand upon them, bringing them peace.

Please pray for the doctors, nurses, care workers and volunteers. Give them the skills and strength they need to support those in need.

We also pray for our services in March and April and all those that lead them that we can all be truly uplifted and feel God's presence in all that we do. In particular, please pray for the Lent course sessions and the services being held during Holy week that they bring together the congregations of all the churches that are led by Rev Joseph Ribeiro so that we can all deepen our faiths and understanding.

We pray for all those volunteers that help our services to run smoothly, so that we can bring God's love and message to our community. We also pray that other people may feel the urge to help out and offer their skills to share the load of work in the church.

Amen

World Day of Prayer 2026

Origins

The origins of World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women of the United States and Canada initiated a variety of activities in support of women's involvement in mission at home and in other parts of the world.

These activities remain related to:

- Concern for women and children
- The role of prayer in mission work
- A vision of Christian unity
- Biblical study as everyone's responsibility
- Social issues and working with immigrants
- Linking world peace with world mission

In 1926, the women of North America distributed the worship service to many countries and partners in mission. The response worldwide was enthusiastic and thus the call was issued for a World Day of Prayer.

Nowadays

Nowadays, more than 120 countries participate in an annual day of celebration which brings together people of various races, cultures and traditions sharing God's word and worship.

Through World Day of Prayer, Christians around the world:

- Affirm their faith in Jesus
- Share their hopes, fears, joys, sorrows, opportunities and needs

Through World Day of Prayer, we are all encouraged to:

- Be enriched by the faith of Christians in other cultures
- Share the burdens of other people and pray for them
- Become aware of the whole world and no longer live in isolation.

Logo



In 1982, Irish women from both North and South prepared the service together. The logo was designed by a man especially for the service that year and was then adopted internationally. The design comprises arrows converging from the four points of the compass, four figures kneeling in prayer, the Celtic cross and a circle representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.

Each year, a different country prepares the service, which is then translated, adapted, and shared across the world.

The process is astonishingly collaborative:

- A writing country is chosen years in advance.
- The service is developed locally, then reviewed by the international committee in New York.
- National committees - such as the World Day of Prayer UK - adapt the material for their own contexts.
- Finally, congregations everywhere gather to worship, reflect, and pray.



Every year, on the first Friday in March, Christians across the world join together in a remarkable act of unity: the World Day of Prayer. It is a day when voices rise in countless languages, cultures, and traditions, forming a continuous wave of prayer that travels across the globe.

In 2026, that wave begins on **Friday 6 March**, carried first by the people of Samoa. Early in the morning Christian women begin praying for our world. As the earth rotates, a great wave of power begins to build. It sweeps across the Pacific, touching Fiji and New Zealand, rolling on through Asia: Japan, The Philippines, Korea and Bangladesh. The

countries of Africa, and the Middle East are next. The wave reaches the shores of Europe as the day dawns there. Across the Atlantic, it moves onwards, the Caribbean, the Americas, and on to the Pacific again until the sun finally sets over American Samoa where the final service takes place. A worldwide circle of prayer is complete.

Nigeria: A Story of Faith, Resilience, and Hope

This year's theme for the World Day of Prayer has been prepared by the women of Nigeria. Nigeria is a nation of extraordinary diversity—ethnic, linguistic, and religious. It is home to bustling cities, rich cultural traditions, and a vibrant Christian community. Yet it is also a country facing significant challenges: economic pressures, political tensions, and the ongoing impact of conflict in some regions.

The women who crafted the 2026 service speak from within this complex reality. Their reflections draw on lived experience—of faith under pressure, of communities striving for peace, and of the deep spiritual longing for rest in God. Their voices invite us not only to pray *for* Nigeria but to pray *with* Nigeria, recognising our shared humanity and shared discipleship.

An invitation from the women of Nigeria to the global Church

The women of **Nigeria**, who have prepared this year's service, invite us to reflect on the theme "**I will give you rest: come**", drawn from **Matthew 11:28–30**. It is a theme that speaks deeply into the anxieties, burdens, and uncertainties of our age. For Methodist congregations, with our long-standing commitment to prayer, justice, and global fellowship, this year's focus offers a profound opportunity to listen, learn, and respond.

The chosen scripture, Matthew 11:28–30, is one of the most tender invitations Jesus offers:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

In a world marked by exhaustion—emotional, spiritual, and physical—this message resonates powerfully. The Nigerian writers encourage us to explore what it means to find rest in Christ, not as an escape from the world's troubles but as a source of strength to face them.

This theme aligns beautifully with the Methodist tradition of social holiness. Rest in Christ is not passive; it equips us to act with compassion, courage, and justice. It reminds us that prayer is not a retreat from the world but a way of grounding ourselves in God's renewing love.

Future Themes

The themes for the next few years have already been set by the International Committee and they and the country that leads them are as follows:

2027 United in prayer for Justice and Peace

WDPIC (World Day of Prayer International Committee)

2028 Leading the way in grace

Costa Rica

2029 Compassion brings healing

Italy

2030 As the earth rests, people can eat

Nepal

2031 A sign of faith

Jamaica

The graphics in the decorative border below represent countries highlighted in recent World Day of Prayer services.



Thought for the Month



As we grow older,
it's less important
to have more
friends, and more
important to have
real friends.

**QUALITY OVER
QUANTITY**

Lent and Easter services 2026

Lent and Easter is set to be very different from previous years as Rev Joseph has set up some Lent prayer groups. These will be taking place at all the churches that he is responsible for on different weeks with the first one starting on Wednesday 25th February at South Yardley church. The full list is below:

The plan is to hold a daytime session from 2pm to 3pm which will include

DATE	VENUE	TIME	DISCUSSION
25 th Feb	South Yardley, Broadyates Road, Birmingham, B25 8JF	2.00pm	The Necessity of Prayer
4 th Mar	Saltley Church, 140 Alum Rock Road, Birmingham, B8 1HU	2.00pm	How to Pray
11 th Mar	Lyndon	2.00pm	Barriers to Prayer
18 th Mar	Castle Bromwich, School Lane / Cat Lane, Birmingham, B34 6SJ	2.00pm	Faith and Prayer
25 th Mar	South Yardley, Broadyates Road, Birmingham, B25 8JF	2.00pm	Answers to Prayer

an opening prayer and hymn
 some teaching and discussion
 a time of prayer

There will also be an evening session as well starting at 7.30pm. This will be a hybrid session which will take place at the same venue as the relevant afternoon session as well as by Zoom. The meeting ID and password will be available from Lynne and Claire before the meeting.

Rev Joseph would like to encourage us to attend as many sessions as we can regardless of the venue as the aim is that all participate in these meetings as they are designed to foster Christian fellowship amongst members of all churches and strengthen us in every way.

In addition, there will be a series of special services over the period, again taking place at the different churches that Rev Joseph is responsible for, culminating in a joint service on Easter Sunday to be held at Lyndon. The details of all the services are below:

DATE	VENUE	TIME	THEME	PREACHER
18 th Feb	Castle Bromwich, School Lane / Cat Lane, Birmingham, B34 6SJ	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion and Ashing	Rev J Ribeiro
2 nd April	Castle Bromwich, School Lane / Cat Lane, Birmingham, B34 6SJ	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion	Rev J Ribeiro
3 rd April	South Yardley, Broadyates Road, Birmingham, B25 8JF	12.30pm	Seven Words on the Cross	Rev J Ribeiro
4 th April	Lyndon	6.00pm	Passion - Hymns and Lessons	Rev J Ribeiro
5 th April	Lyndon	11.00am	Easter Conven- tion with Holy Communion	Rev J Ribeiro

Again, Rev Joseph would like to encourage you to go to as many of the services as possible at this important time of the Christian year.

For those of you who usually worship at Lyndon, please note that the Easter Sunday service will start at 11.00am, not the usual time of 10.30am so that it coincides with the start time of the other churches that will be joining us for worship that morning.

Flowers at church – discuss!

Lorraine spotted an item that was printed in the Daily Mail recently about the use of flowers at church. The article talks about an edict issued to CofE priests about the use of traditional floral arrangements and suggests that due to growing concerns about the Church of England's carbon footprint, its ruling body is set to urge all parishes, chaplaincies and cathedrals to carefully consider its use of floral displays and instead 'glorify God sustainably'.



One of the things that the General Synod will be voting on is the use of floral foam, which is used to keep stems in place, and whether it should be eliminated from use to be more environmentally friendly. They are also suggesting that parish churches look to swap the use of imported flowers for 'local, seasonal and fully biodegradable or compostable flowers and foliage'.

According to the article, priests will also be encouraged to 'repurpose floral arrangements' from Sundays for midweek services or by giving them to care homes and hospitals. There is also a suggestion that the church could grow its own flowers or use branches, berries and dried flowers in place of fresh blooms, or that parishioners should be encouraged to supply the church with their own homegrown flowers.

Many people at church may have seen the article and wondered about the use of flowers at Lyndon. Lorraine tells me that the foam that we use is biodegradable – we no longer use the old-fashioned oasis which is mostly plastic. The flowers that we buy for the arrangements are distributed to members of the congregation to celebrate birthdays, or to those who are sick or going through a hard time, or perhaps to say thank you for work that they have done at church.

During the big flower seasons – Easter, Harvest and Christmas, not only do we use fresh flowers, but we also use dried items that we have used many times over the years. Often there is also a request from church members for additional greenery from their gardens, all of which helps to cut our carbon footprint.

Is it something you appreciate and would like to see continued, or do you think our flower ministry needs to be updated or amended? Do you have any ideas about how we could do things better or differently to improve our green footprint? Please speak to Lorraine or one of the stewards or send me a comment to go into the next magazine.

Thank you

Lynne Tyler



Shirley **Methodist** Church

257 Stratford Road. B90 3AL
Saturday 28th March 2026

Shirley Methodist Church Choir
and friends from
Coventry Cathedral Chorus
Invite you to

Bring and Sing Stainer's Crucifixion Faure's Requiem

Conductor: Julie Barnes
Organist: Graham Lowe

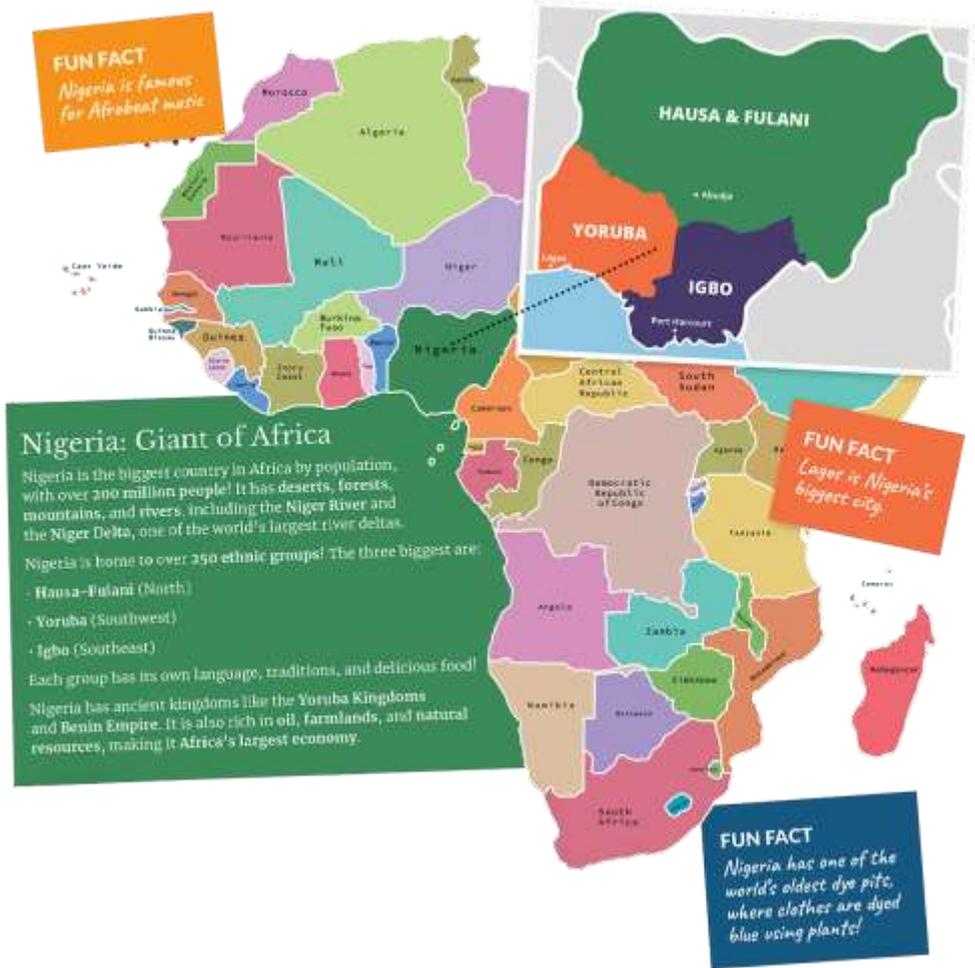
Registration 2:30pm
Rehearsal 3-5pm
Performance 7:00pm



To express your interest in singing please send
your name and part to MessiahatShirley@proton.me
COST: £5 for singers and audience, pay on the day

Nigeria – what do you know?

As one of the other groups that use Lyndon as a place of worship, RCCG (Redeemed Christian Church of God) began in Nigeria and with the World Day of Prayer service this year being prepared by the women of Nigeria, I thought it would be interesting to look at some facts about Nigeria.



The Nigerian flag consists of 3 vertical stripes – two green and one white. It is also often displayed with the Nigerian coat of arms inside it, too! The Nigerian motto which also appears on the coat of arms is UNITY AND FAITH, PEACE AND PROGRESS, something which I guess we should all aspire to within our Christian faith.

Nigeria, which is a country in West Africa as you can see from the map above, has

the official name of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The main religions in Nigeria are Christianity, Islam and traditional indigenous religions.



It is known as the “Giant of Africa”, earning this title from its vast land, diverse cultures, large population and abundant natural resources, including oil. The capital of Nigeria is Abuja although it only became the capital in the early 1990’s. Before that, the capital was Lagos which still retains its standing as the country’s leading commercial and industrial city.

English is the official language of Nigeria, although there are over 250 languages spoken.

There are three main tribes in Africa, Yoruba, Hausa and Igbo as shown

on the map above. The artwork for this year’s World Day of Prayer was done by Gift Amarachi Ottah and is entitled Rest for the Weary. It shows three women sitting together, their different traditional attire representing Nigeria’s diverse cultures. Though they come from different ethnic groups, their shared experiences unite them.

The picture shows the women with three different styles of headdress which they wear to celebrate their culture and themselves:

The gele is a traditional headdress within the Yoruba tribe, worn for Sunday services, and occasions such as weddings, childbirth ceremonies and even funerals. There are many ways of wrapping gele, and they can be made of stiff or soft fabrics of any colours or patterns.

The Igbo women wear an ichafu, which can be styled in various ways for weddings and other celebrations. The colour, style and tie of the ichafu can carry both social



and marital significance. The art of tying ichafu is often passed down through family generations.

Hausa women wear a traditional kallabi headdress (also called a dan kwani). These can be made from colourful fabrics and paired with a gyale (or shawl).

The national bird of Nigeria is the black crowned crane (*Balearica Pavonina*), and a very elegant bird it is, too! It is known for its distinctive golden crown of bristle-like feathers and is also called the West African crowned crane.

The national flower of Nigeria is *Costus spectabilis*, more commonly known as the Yellow Trumpet. As its Latin name suggests it is a spectacular flower.



The Cross River Forest is the only evergreen forest in Africa and contains over 1,000 species of birds and amphibians and the most butterflies in Africa. One of those amphibians is the goliath frog which is the largest in the world. They can grow over 32cm in length and can weigh as much as 3kg, which is about as much as a pet cat! I know which one I would rather have sitting on my lap! Surprisingly, it is an endangered species.

Lynne Tyler with information taken from WDP resources.



It's Gospel

An original musical version of the
life of Christ, presented on video



THIS IS A FREE EVENT

Venue & Time:

Hall Green United
Community Church,
B28 8TE.

Saturday 4th April
at 4pm.

More information:

Original lyrics by
Blair Kessler,
music by Suno

Videos produced and
edited by Blair Kessler.

March & April Quiz

Each clue leads to a colour in the answer
e.g. 1964 James Bond film - Goldfinger
Longest running children's TV show - Blue Peter

1	Premier address in Washington	
2	Needed to kill a werewolf	
3	Let your fingers do the walking	
4	Invisible winter road hazard	
5	A serious childhood illness	
6	Signal to proceed	
7	Bureaucracy	
8	The owl and the pussy cat sailed in one?	
9	Rolled out for V I P.s	
10	Just a little fib	
11	The New Zealand Rugby team	
12	According to the song who invented medicinal compound	
13	Very rarely happens	
14	Flat square savoury biscuit	
15	Who summons the House of Commons	
16	A young deer	
17	Postman Pat lived here	
18	Body of water between Korea and China	
19	He wrote the Da Vinci Code	
20	What 1999 film was based on a Stephen King Novel and starred Tom Hanks	

Answers please to Lynne Tyler or Church Email

by 15th April 2026

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES WORDSEARCH

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

ANDREW

BARTHOLOMEW

DISCIPLES

JAMES

JAMES

JESUS

JOHN

JUDAS ISCARIOT

MATTHEW

PHILIP

SIMON PETER

SIMON THE ZEALOT

THADDAEUS

THOMAS

TWELVE

January & February Quiz Answers

1) THREE BAGS FULL 2) THREE FEET 3) THREE FRENCH HENS 4) THREE MINUTES
 5) HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE 6) THREE LEGGED RACE 7) TRIATHLON 8) FRIENDS,
 ROMANS, COUNTRYMEN 9) THIRD PARTY 10) TRILOGY 11) THE THREE
 MUSKETEERS 12) THREE LITTLE MAIDS 13) THREE SCORE YEARS AND TEN 14)
 THREE PIECE SUIT 15) THREE WISE MEN 16) THREE 17) TRIDENT 18) THREE BLIND
 MICE

There were 2 entries this month with 100% correct answers. Congratulations to Elaine and Kieran and the Hunt family who both got 100% right. Commiserations to Margaret Bolland and Kate Collen who both got 2 wrong. How did you do?

Notices & Events

Ladies Club - 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Wednesday 11th and 25th March

Wednesday 8th and 22nd April

Bible Study

Due to the busy Lent period and the Lent course sessions (see details earlier in the magazine) there will be no normal Bible study meetings in March.

In addition, due to Easter, the April Bible Study meetings will be delayed as below:

Evening session: Wednesday 15th April, starting at 7.00pm.

Afternoon session: Wednesday 22nd April, starting at 2.00pm

The following month, and in subsequent months, we will revert back to the original pattern, ie

Evening session: First Wednesday of the month, starting at 7.00pm.

Afternoon session: Second Wednesday of the month, starting at 2.00pm

Location of Bible Study will move to Wesley room or church if it clashes with Ladies Club.

Treasurer's Role

Thankfully, Tony Ludlow has agreed to step back into the role of Treasurer. However, this is a large role and he has asked whether any other members of the congregation could offer to lend him a hand with some of the roles. If you feel that you could help in any way, please speak directly to Tony, Claire Frew or Rev Joseph Ribeiro to let them know how you could help and find out more about the jobs that Tony needs help with.

Thank you

Notices & Events

Leprosy Mission - Thank You

We were visited on February 8th by Hannah Masih, who is our new Leprosy Mission area representative. She wrote an email to Brenda Davis after the service to say that she had enjoyed worshipping at Lyndon and that she appreciated the warm welcome that she and her husband were given. She hoped that we were all happy with her service and that we found elements of the service engaging. She would also welcome any feedback (which can be given to Brenda for forwarding) and would love to come and see us again next year. I understand that Brenda has already invited her back and is just waiting to have the date confirmed.

There were envelopes on the seats and leaflets about the latest Leprosy Mission project. Just under £80.00 was raised from donations by members of the congregation within the envelopes and this was rounded up to £100 and forwarded to the Leprosy Mission. In addition, I understand that Hannah had a card reader with her and several donations were made that way too! Thank you to all who donated. If you would still like to donate, there is still information in the vestibule, or alternatively please speak to Brenda and I'm sure she will be happy to help.

Easter flowers

Lorraine and Margaret will be decorating the church with the Easter flowers on Friday 3rd April. They won't require any donations of greenery, however, donations towards the cost of the flowers would be gratefully received. Please speak to Lorraine or one of the stewards if you would like to make a donation.

I will be preparing the Easter garden in the vestibule that morning, too, so if any children would like to come and join me to help, please let me know.

Thank you.

Easter Saturday service volunteers required

If you are attending the service on Easter Saturday evening and would be happy to help steward, welcome visitors or manage the sound system, please can you let Claire Frew know. Thank you.

Church Retreat

Rev Joseph has asked me to publicise the Church Retreat that he has organised which takes place on Saturday 27th June. The theme is The Power of the word and of the Spirit. For more details please see the advert on page 11 of the magazine.

Services in March

Sunday 1st March

10:30am Service led by Rev Donald Ker

5.00pm Lyndon People with Rev Joseph Ribeiro

Sunday 8th March

10:30am Service led by Barry Davis

Sunday 15th March

10:30am Communion Service led by Rev Joseph Ribeiro

Sunday 22nd March

10:30am Parade Service and All Age Worship led by Claire Frew

Sunday 29th March

10:30am Palm Sunday Service led by Cass Ryner

Services in April

Saturday 4th April

10:30am Passion Service - Hymns and Lessons led by
Rev Joseph Ribeiro

Sunday 5th April

11:00am Easter Sunday Holy Communion Service led by
NOTE TIME Rev Joseph Ribeiro

5.00pm NO LYNDON PEOPLE

Sunday 12th April

10:30am Service led by Barry Davis

Sunday 19th April

10.30am Service led by Ian Smith

Sunday 26th April

10.30am Church Anniversary Service led by
Rev Steven Donnison

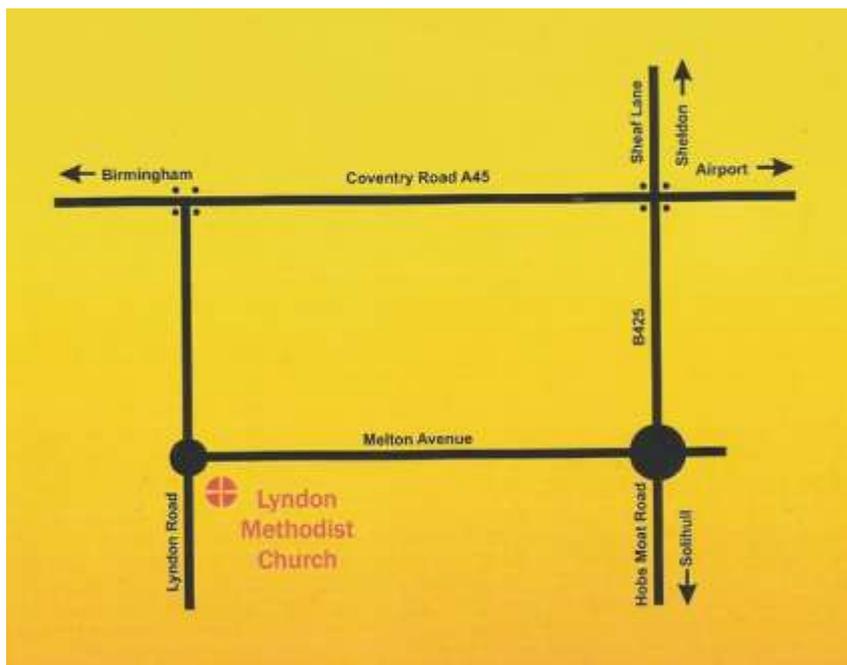
Our next issue will be May 2026

I am looking forward to receiving your contributions by

15th APRIL 2026

by email to Lynne Tyler or to lyndonmethodist@btconnect.com

or by post to Church – address below



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