

**London Street United Reformed Church**

**Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 7NU**

**Tadley (Old Meeting) United Reformed Church**

**Malthouse Ln, Hants, RG26 3NY**

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Useful contact information for both churches.



<b>London Street United Reformed Church, RG21 7NU</b> 01256 242152 <a href="http://www.basingstokeurc.org.uk">www.basingstokeurc.org.uk</a>	
<b>Minister</b>	<b>Position is in Vacancy</b>
<b>Gill Miller</b> Church Secretary	39 New Road, Basingstoke, RG21 7PR 01256 322183 07889 305350 <a href="mailto:secretary@basingstokeurc.org.uk">secretary@basingstokeurc.org.uk</a>
<b>Kengjisu (Keng) Moavu</b> Treasurer	25 Hargreaves Close, Basingstoke, RG24 9SS 07943 175155 <a href="mailto:treasurer@basingstokeurc.org.uk">treasurer@basingstokeurc.org.uk</a>
<b>Tony Patterson</b> Lettings Secretary	3 Cumberland Avenue, RG22 4BG 07810 873277 <a href="mailto:lettings@basingstokeurc.org.uk">lettings@basingstokeurc.org.uk</a>
<b>Matthew Dumbleton</b> Focus Editor	20 Ennerdale Close, Basingstoke, RG22 5HJ 01256 516903 <a href="mailto:matthew.dumbleton@outlook.com">matthew.dumbleton@outlook.com</a>

<b>Tadley (Old Meeting) United Reformed Church, Malthouse Lane, RG26 3NY</b> <a href="https://www.tadleyurc.com">https://www.tadleyurc.com</a>	
<b>Paul Gross</b> Church Secretary	22 Pelican Road, Pamber Heath, RG26 3EN 0118 970 0809 <a href="mailto:paulgross3107@gmail.com">paulgross3107@gmail.com</a>
<b>Mark Ward</b> Treasurer	10 Hartleys, Silchester, Reading RG7 2QE <a href="mailto:mandjward@hotmail.co.uk">mandjward@hotmail.co.uk</a>

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

This month...



Friends, I am following the United Reformed Church's Prayer Handbook for 2025. At the end of August I was praying that God would put into my mind something I could share with you all in October's Focus. I started thinking about this early because I was going to be on Holiday from 14th to 20th September, and the date for Focus items was 20th September.

One of the Psalms to read that day was 103, verses 1 to 8, but having got to verse 8 I did not want to stop reading so carried on to the end. My heart was "strangely warmed" as I read these words and felt this Psalm was what I should share with you all. Enjoy!!

*Praise the LORD, O my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
Praise the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all His benefits-  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the Eagle's.*

*The LORD works righteousness and justice  
for all the oppressed.*

*He made known His ways to Moses,  
His deeds to the people of Israel:  
The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
He will not always accuse,  
nor will He harbour His anger for ever;  
He does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.*



*For as high as the heavens are  
above the earth,  
so great is His love for those who fear Him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has He removed our transgressions from us.  
As a father has compassion on His children,  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him;  
for He knows how we are formed,  
He remembers that we are dust.  
As for a man, his days are like grass  
he flourishes like a flower of the field;  
the wind blows over it and it is gone,  
and its place remembers it no more.  
But from everlasting to everlasting  
the LORD'S love is with those who fear Him,  
and His righteousness with their  
children's children-  
with those who keep His covenant  
and remember to obey His precepts.*

*The LORD has established His  
throne in heaven,  
and His kingdom rules over all.*

*Praise the LORD, you His angels,  
you mighty ones who do His bidding,  
who obey His word.*

*Praise the LORD, all His heavenly hosts  
you His servants who do His will.*

*Praise the LORD, all His works  
everywhere in His dominion.*

*Praise the Lord, O my soul. AMEN (NIV)*





## THE NOTICEBOARD

Information, updates, tips, and more.



### ANNIVERSARY THANKS!



We wish to express our overwhelming thanks for all the cards, gifts, and love which we received for our Diamond Wedding celebration over the weekend of 6th/7th September, especially to all those who organised the Garden Party and helped making it such a joyous and truly memorable occasion, and which was the fitting completion of our weekend. Also special thanks to Mike for our Wedding Anniversary Service.

-Peter & Ruth Bentall

Happy Birthday to the following members of our church family:

**Kenita Moavu (8) on 9th**

**Ian McCloy (83) on 9th**

**Isaac Dumbleton (5) on 14th**

**Carys Haywood (90) on 25th**

If you know someone who is 80+ that would like their birthday added to the list in Focus, please let Jenny McCloy or the Editor know.



Can you help to make sure that no one in our local community goes hungry?



Items **urgently** needed: Tinned Meat (e.g. Chilli, Stewing Steak, Ham), Custard, UHT Milk, Hot/Cold Desserts (e.g. Jelly, Sponge Pudding, Angel Delight), Sweet Treats, Shopping Bags.

Items needed: Tinned Fruit, Tinned Soup, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Spaghetti, Coffee, Savoury Spreads (e.g. Peanut Butter, Marmite), Noodles, UHT Fruit Juice, Squash, Powdered Milk, Savoury Snacks, Cup-A-Soup, Shampoo and Conditioner, Tampons, Nappies (Size 6 & Above Only), Household Cleaning Products & Washing Up Liquid, Loo Roll.

Please **do not** give Baby Food, Hot/Cold Cereal, Nappies (Size 5 & Below), Non-Dairy Milk, Pasta, Pulses, Rice, Sanitary Pads, or Tinned Beans, as these are already in surplus.

Donations can be left at London Street URC in the container provided. For up to date lists, or to find other donation points, go to:

<https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/givehelp/food/>

Or download the BankTheFood app from the Apple App/Google Play store and select Basingstoke Foodbank.



The latest Foodbytes magazine can be found by following this link:

<https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/249/2025/08/Autumn-25-Foodbytes.pdf>



**NOTE:** There is also an SOS for 'Bags for life', strong enough for tins of food and tetra packs of milk etc. If you can help, please put them in the 'Foodbank' box in the concourse (on the way into the church).

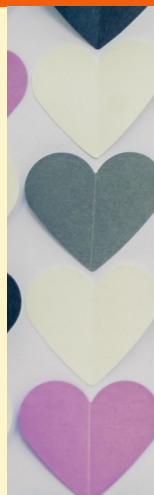
## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

I wish to thank all church members who have been a great support with all the love and prayers over the past year, for me and Michael.

Mike returned home from Rehab some weeks ago. When he went into rehab he could do very little for himself. With hard work and determination he's able to do everything.

He still has problems with speech and language and thought process, which causes him frustration, but is improving. God has worked miracles for him.

-Marguerite Hurford



## FOCUS: Next Issue

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Focus magazine. If you would like to contribute to the November magazine, please contact the editor by **18th of October**.

## Church Flowers

The Flower Committee would like to thank Alison Jamieson for donating & arranging the Harvest flowers.

Please also note that the Church will be open Sat 4 Oct'25 10.30 till 12.30 for people to decorate a window sill. Please put your name on the notice board list. Thank you.

We would also like to thank Chris & Leng Ayland for donating the flowers on 26 Oct'25 in celebration of their 20th Wedding Anniversary.

## **Eco Tip**

**God's Gift -- Our World**

**The Environment -- Our Responsibility**



Old ballpoints, other pens, Tipp-ex dispensers and the like can be recycled in Ryman stores (and elsewhere) via TerraCycle.

Don't forget, you can recycle the following items at London Street:

Empty Printer Cartridges, Aluminium Containers and Foil, Batteries, and Plastic Milk Bottle Tops.

## **'Reframe' Bible Study at Tadley URC (Poster on page 9)**

Following our success with running the Bible Societies "Romans Course", Tadley URC are now running a new 10 week DVD based course promoted by Bible Society called "Reframe".

The course will run Monday evenings at Tadley URC Immanuel Centre Hall starting 22nd September (breaking for 1/2 term).

We begin at 7:15pm with cake and refreshments before commencing at 7:30pm.

Ample car parking is available. Everyone is welcome. Come for as many or few sessions as you are able to make!

Love in Christ,

Mark, and all at Tadley URC

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE**

My thanks to all London Street friends who have sent kind and supportive messages to me following John's sudden death. I have felt upheld by your prayers and surrounded by love.

-Margaret Carrick Smith



**Enter into the big story of  
Scripture and explore how  
the gospel reframes all of  
life.**



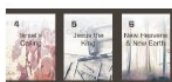
**ReFrame is a 10-Session  
video-based Bible study that  
brings faith to life.**

**Starting 7:15pm for 7:30pm Monday  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sept through to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec**

**Tadley United Reformed Church Immanuel Centre, Malthouse  
Lane/Main Road, Tadley More Info: [tadleyurc@gmail.com](mailto:tadleyurc@gmail.com)**



REFRAME



REFRAME





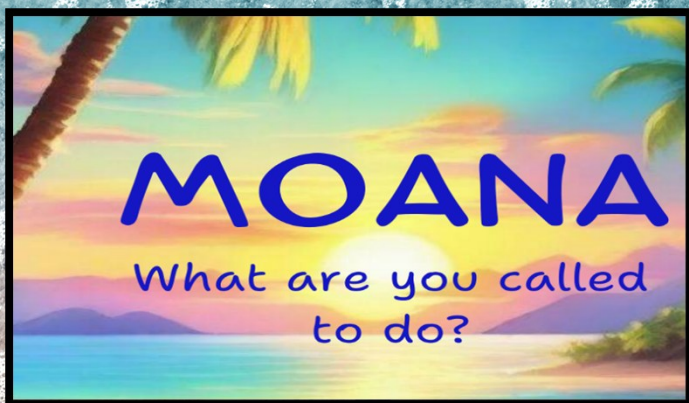
# EXHIBITION



OF  
HISTORIC BIBLES  
BY  
CHRIS AYLAND  
AT  
LONDON STREET  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

MONDAY AND TUESDAY  
27<sup>TH</sup> AND 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

10AM TO 4PM



## Children's Day alongside Synod Meeting

Saturday 11 October 2025, 10:00am – 4:30pm

Avenue St. Andrew's Church, Southampton,

SO17 1XQ

A fun packed day for 7–11 year olds, exploring who we are and what God is calling us to be.

Workshops – Craft, Ocean Slime, Boat racing, Cooking, Mocktails and much more...

Picnic Lunch (bring your own)

This is a free event.

Book a place for your child by getting a ticket at: <https://www.urcwessex.org.uk/childrens-day-alongside-synod-meeting-october-2025/>

Bookings close at midnight on 5 October 2025





## **‘Monkey Business’ with Joan Musselwhite**

You may have seen our friend Joan in the Basingstoke Gazette recently. This picture is from a recent visit by some squirrel monkeys (from Heythrop Zoological Gardens) to her care home.

Suffice to say, Joan enjoyed her visitors’ company, and she kindly gave us permission to share this picture with you all.



## **AUTUMN GLADES**

The following poem celebrates the glories of the season.

We stroll through leafy autumn glades,  
An amber carpet ‘neath our shoes;  
As Nature’s summer beauty fades  
She clothes herself in golden hues.

The stillness of October days,  
The chillness of a frosty dawn,  
Yet autumn sunshine’s slanting rays  
Caress us with their glowing warmth.

They also warm the southern breeze,  
Which comes upon us, as it may,  
Releasing crispy, ochre leaves  
To gently patter on our way.

Soon, soon comes winter’s icy grip,  
Of freezing wind and driving snow,  
But, just for now, we’ll gladly slip  
Through gentle autumn’s golden glow.

By Nigel Beeton



## NEW SCHOOLS & NEW TERMS

Some shared photos of our children starting a new school year.









## A VISIT WITH ADONAI: STORIES OF HOPE AND IMPACT

On Sunday, August 31, 2025, we had the privilege of visiting London Street United Reformed Church, Basingstoke. What a joyful and humbling experience it was! Although our son was originally scheduled to lead worship, a last-minute change to his flight meant he arrived a day late and sadly missed the opportunity.

Yet, in God's goodness, another door had opened. During the service, Mark Ward graciously invited us to share about the ministry of Adonai Centre in Uganda, a ministry that has been close to our hearts for 15 years. From the very beginning, Adonai has existed to give vulnerable children the chance to flourish through education, stability, and the love of Christ.

### Adonai Centre: 15 Years of Hope

For the past 15 years, Adonai Child Development Centre has been a place of refuge and growth for vulnerable children. What began as a small effort to give children stability and education has grown into a vibrant ministry.

Today, 354 pupils attend Adonai School. About 100 of them still wait for sponsors. What they need most isn't just a meal or a uniform; it's stability. Sponsorship provides consistency, school fees, food, healthcare, and the assurance that they can keep learning without interruption.

But Adonai is more than a school. It is:

- A source of clean water and medical care
- A place of emotional and spiritual support
- A bridge into secondary education or vocational training

Adonai is more than a school — it's a bridge of hope.

### A Story of Transformation

Nothing captures the heart of Adonai's mission more than the story of Henry and many more.

Henry came to Adonai at the age of eight, having lost both parents.

Through the care, stability, and opportunities he received, Henry completed his education, trained as a lab technician, and now works at Adonai Medical Centre, serving the very community that once cared for him.

Henry's journey is a living testimony of the transformation possible when a child is given a chance.

## **Gratitude and Partnership**

We remain deeply grateful to Tadley URC and the Tadley community for your faithful involvement in this journey. A special word of thanks goes to "Jajja" Penny O'Bee, who has been an anchor of hope for so many years.

Although our son's voice was not heard in worship that morning, the Lord's voice rang out clearly through the stories and testimonies shared.

We left London Street URC encouraged by the warmth of your welcome and the commitment of some church members who committed themselves to sponsor some children, and we were reminded once again that while our plans may change, God's mission never does.

## **How You Can Get Involved with Adonai**

**Pray** – Join us in praying for the 354 children at Adonai School, for the 100 children still waiting for sponsors, and for the staff who serve them daily.

**Sponsor a Child** – For less than the cost of a cup of coffee a day, you can provide education, healthcare, food, and stability for a child in need.

**Sponsor a teacher** – Sponsoring to teacher you can give access to education to the whole class of about 45 students.

**Partner in Support** – Churches, groups, and individuals can contribute toward projects such as clean water, medical care, or building homes for vulnerable girls.

**Connect with Us** – To learn more or begin a partnership,

Contact us at [alloysious@adonaicentre.org](mailto:alloysious@adonaicentre.org) ,  
[childsponsorship@adonaiuk.org](mailto:childsponsorship@adonaiuk.org) or visit [www.adonaicentre.org](http://www.adonaicentre.org).

Together, we can be part of God's mission of hope and transformation.

With gratitude,

Aloysious and Abby

Adonai Child Development Centre



Some pictures of the wonderful work Adonai do. The last photo, 'Buying the farm', was their wise use of funds made over 3 years when Tadley URC ran their 2 week charity shop in Whitchurch.

## THE PRAYER CIRCLE

Please remember the following people in your prayers...

Margaret Carrick Smith and family on the occasion of John's  
Thanksgiving Service on October 7th.

David Swain, and Alison who is supporting him

Barbara Banbury and David Corfield

Marguerite Hurford and her son Michael

Carol Scott

Chris Jones' grandson, Archie

Louise & David Waller

Joan Musselwhite

Dick & Anne Davey

Jason Dudley

Christine & Eric Clucas

Carys Haywood

Maggie & Richard Morgans

Bev Harris and Dom

Claire Macro

Stan & Sandra Marut

Hyacinth Ridguard

Ruth Bental

Jenny McCloy

The Patterson family

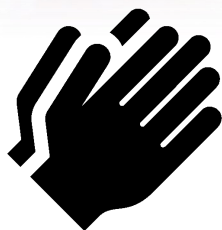
Seb Allwright

Gill Vickery

Zoe Cole and her daughters, Rachel and Caitlyn

John Featherstone's daughter

Please pray for God's guidance to all that are a part of Wessex  
Synod's meeting on October 11th



## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

This month's assigned readings.



	Psalm	New Testament		Psalm	New Testament
1st	109: 6-15, 30-31	Eph 4	17th	118: 1-7	1 Thess 5
2nd	109: 16-20, 30-31	Eph 5: 1-20	18th	118: 8-21	2 Thess 1
3rd	109: 21-25	Eph 5: 21 - 6: 9	19th	118: 22-29	2 Thess 2
4th	109: 26-31	Eph 6: 10-24	20th	23	2 Thess 3
5th	110	Philippians 1	21st	119: 1-8	1 Timothy 1
6th	111: 1-5	Philippians 2	22nd	118: 9-16	1 Timothy 2
7th	111: 6-10	Philippians 3	23rd	119: 17-24	1 Timothy 3
8th	112: 1-5	Philippians 4	24th	119: 25-32	1 Timothy 4
9th	112: 6-10	Col 1	25th	119: 33-40	1 Timothy 5
10th	113	Col 2	26th	119: 41-48	1 Timothy 6
11th	114	Col 3: 1 - 4: 1	27th	119: 49-56	2 Timothy 1
12th	115: 1-8	Col 4: 2-18	28th	119: 57-64	2 Timothy 2
13th	115: 9-18	1 Thess 1	29th	119: 65-72	2 Timothy 3
14th	116: 1-9	1 Thess 2	30th	119: 73-80	2 Timothy 4
15th	116: 10-19	1 Thess 3	31st	119: 81-88	Titus 1
16th	117	1 Thess 4			



## EVENT DIARIES

What's on this month at London St. & Old Meeting URCs.



**At London Street URC (unless otherwise specified):**

### Regular Events

Sunday Worship 10:30am			
<b>Mondays</b>	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Craft Group</b>	
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>5:45-6:45pm</b>	<b>Squirrels</b>	<b>In Term Time. All in the Den except Scouts and Beavers, who meet in the Wessex Hall.</b>
		<b>Beavers</b>	
	<b>7-8:30pm</b>	<b>Cubs</b>	
	<b>7-9pm</b>	<b>Scouts</b>	
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Memory Tree</b>	
	<b>12:15pm</b>	<b>Lunchtime Prayers</b>	
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>7:15-9:15pm</b>	<b>Explorers</b>	<b>In Term Time. In the Den.</b>

### October Worship Diary

<b>5th</b>	<b>Parade and Harvest Service. Led by 8th Basingstoke Scouts; Musician: Mark Best; Duty Elder: Matthew Dumbleton.</b>
<b>12th</b>	<b>Led by Karen Smith; Musician: Revd. Denis Smith; Duty Elder: Matthew Dumbleton.</b>
<b>19th</b>	<b>Led by Aklan Goldring; Musician: Mark Best; Duty Elder: Matthew Dumbleton.</b>
<b>26th</b>	<b>Service includes Holy Communion. Led by Revd. Julian Macro; Musician: Peter Dixon; Duty Elder: Tony Patterson.</b>

## Next Church Meeting:

23rd November (Sunday) at 1:15pm (in the Hook Room)

**At Tadley (Old Meeting) URC (unless otherwise specified):**

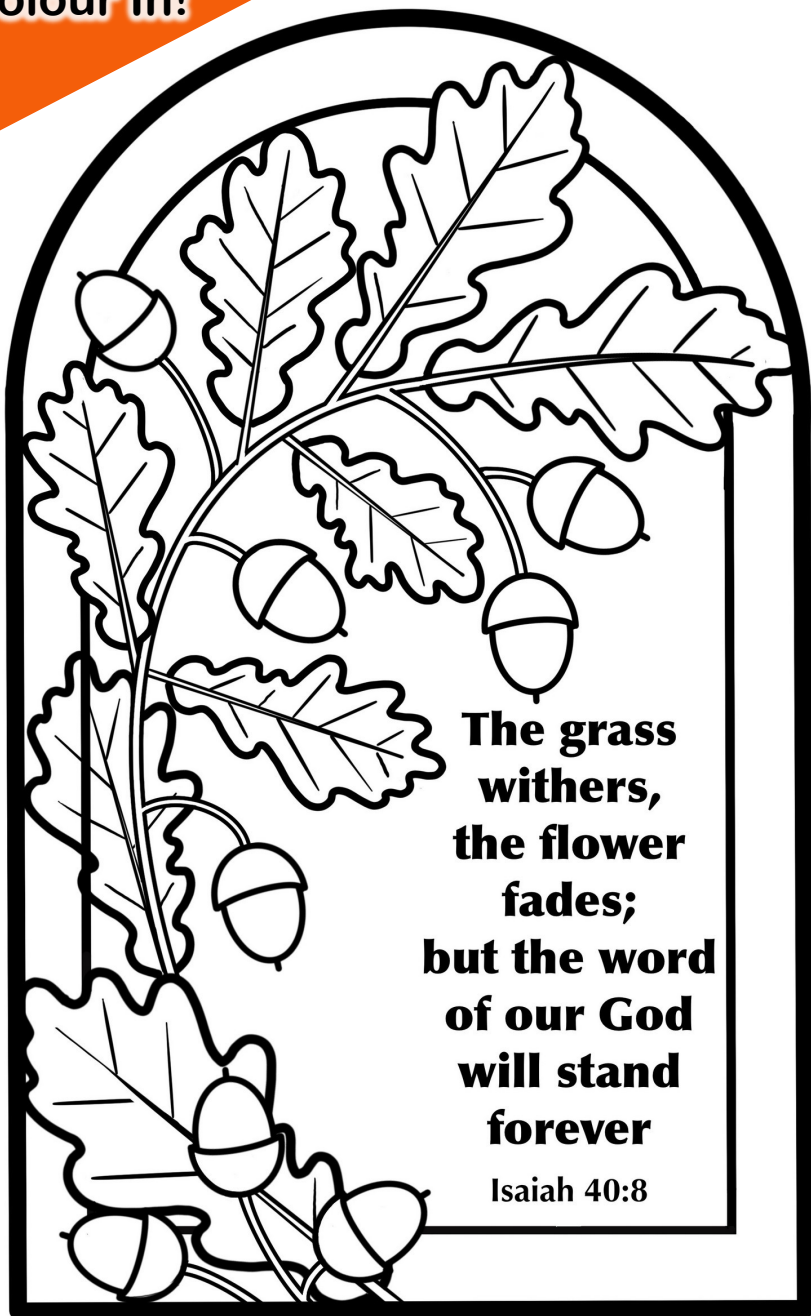
## Regular Events

Sunday Worship 10:30am		
Monday Afternoons	Ladies' Cell Group	Contact Penny O'Bee.
Monday Evenings	Cell Group	Contact Mark Ward or Paul Gross.
Tuesday Evenings	Joint Prayer Time with St Paul's	Contact Penny O'Bee.
Wednesday Evenings	Prayer via Zoom	Contact Mark Ward.
Friday Afternoons	Men's Shed	2pm, once a fortnight. Contact Paul Gross.
Saturday Mornings	Ladies' Breakfast & Talk	10am, 2nd Saturday of each month. Everyone welcome.
	Men's Breakfast & Talk	10am, 4th Saturday of each month. Everyone welcome.

## October Worship Diary

5th	Harvest Service. Led by Mark Ward.
12th	Led by TBC.
19th	Led by TBC.
26th	Led by Mel Euerby.

**Colour In!**



**The grass  
withereth,  
the flower  
fades;  
but the word  
of our God  
will stand  
forever**

**Isaiah 40:8**

## Mouse Makes

This is **Psalm 150**,  
a song of praise to God,  
it tells us why and how  
to worship God.  
*How do you praise and  
worship God?*

**Praise** God in His Temple,  
**Praise** Him in His mighty heavens.  
**Praise** Him for His acts of power,  
**Praise** Him for his surpassing greatness.

**Praise Him**  
with the sounding trumpet,  
**Praise Him**  
with the harp and lyre,  
**Praise Him**  
with tambourine and dancing,  
**Praise Him**  
with the clash of cymbals,  
**Praise Him**  
with the resounding cymbals.  
Let everything that has breath  
**PRAISE THE LORD!**

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

PRAISE • GOD • TEMPLE • HEAVENS • SANCTUARY • POWER • GREATNESS  
TRUMPET • HORN • PIPE • FLUTE • HARP • LYRE • LUTE • STRINGS  
TAMBOURINE • DANCING • CYMBALS • DRUMS • BREATH • LORD



# London Street

## United Reformed Church

London Street URC, Basingstoke seeks to ensure that all content and information published in this issue of FOCUS is current and accurate. The information included does not in any way constitute legal or professional advice and the church cannot be held liable for actions arising from its use.

London Street United Reformed Church is a working name of  
Registered Charity London Street (Basingstoke) United Reformed  
Church Charity [reg. no. 1130801]