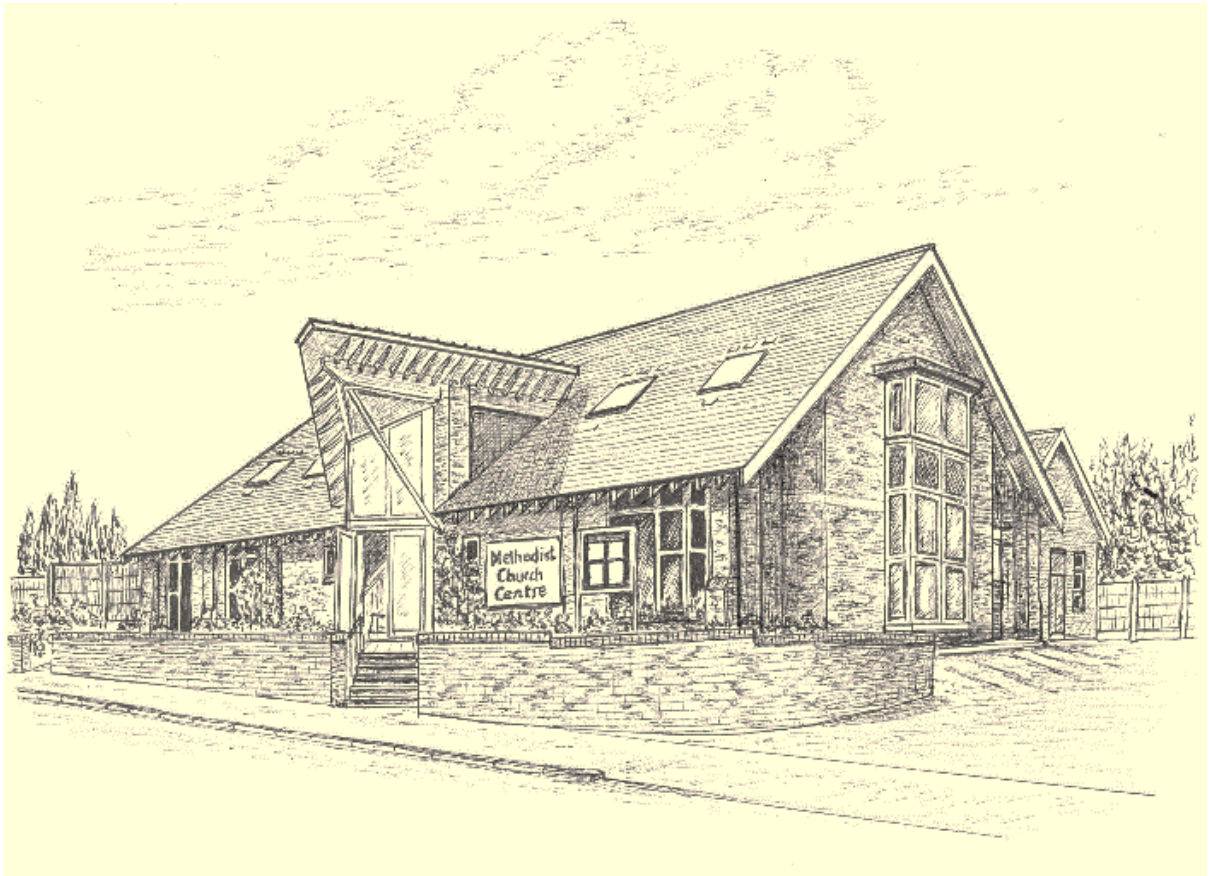


# **Mickleover Methodist Church Centre September 2021**

Service to celebrate the  
20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the  
opening of

**Mickleover Methodist Church Centre**



**Sunday 12th September 2021**  
10am morning worship service.

## **Church is open for worship with**

- the continued wearing of masks;
- use of sanitisers;
- and completing the Track and Trace record.
- people can now sit with others, if they wish;
- and we can sing quietly – behind our masks.
- Refreshments are served after Church service.



**Monday and Friday Prayer times @10am, Wednesday coffee and chat @ 10am and Sunday Worship @ 10am continue to be available on Zoom. Contact Church Office for the link.**

## **CHURCH SERVICES Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

10am - Richard Horth

## **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

10am All Age Worship - Revd Gill Sharp

Celebrating of 20 years since opening of the new Church Centre

6.30pm Holy Communion - Revd Gill Sharp

## **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

10am - Janet Patmore and Jo Howie from Susanna Wesley House

## **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

10am Holy Communion - Revd Gill Sharp

with annual commissioning of local preachers and worship leaders.

6.30pm Songs of Praise on Zoom only

## **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

10am - Revd Gill Sharp - baptism

Information about the services correct at time of printing.

**Mickleover Methodist Church Centre** Office phone: 01332 735052

Office email: [church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk](mailto:church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk)

**Minister:** Revd Gill Sharp

email: [gill.sharp@methodist.org.uk](mailto:gill.sharp@methodist.org.uk)

phone: 01332 511039

**Children and Families Worker:** Fiona McCreddin

email: [candf.w@mickleovermethodist.org.uk](mailto:candf.w@mickleovermethodist.org.uk)

phone: 01332 735052

## Minister's Message – Caring for Creation

Psalm 24:1-2

*<sup>1</sup>The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,  
the world, and all who live in it;  
<sup>2</sup>for he founded it on the seas  
and established it on the waters.*

The time from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October is known as the Season of Creation. The Season of Creation is the annual ecumenical celebration of prayer and action for our common home, God's creation, the earth. This year, the theme for the season is *A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God*. In Genesis God set a dome over the Earth. God put us all, all people, all life, under the same domed roof — we are all in the house, the *oikos* of God. And God gave humans the responsibility of taking care of this *oikos* of God. The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration and commitment.

The environment and climate change are key topics in our world today. The Methodist Church website states that 'This is a crucial time for churches to learn more about the impact of climate change, to call for climate justice and to commit to reduce our own carbon footprint.' It suggests our response as church should include

- becoming an Eco-Church – which we are already looking into, see more information later in this magazine
- holding a Climate Sunday service
- working ecumenically to promote action for climate justice.
- praying for our world

Our world is God's gift to us, and we are chosen to be care-takers within this dynamic and living community of creation. The psalmist writes '*The earth is full of his (God's) unfailing love*' (Psalm 33:5), so may we continue to show that same love for the earth and all that lives in it, so it may truly be a home for all, the house of God.

Rev Gill

**Be God's people, everywhere, every day**

## Leadership Team Update August 2021

It's been a long year and a half but at last we are gathering together as a church community and beginning to think about the future. Things will never go back to what they were like before, but this is a big opportunity to do things better and smarter.

You may have seen the poster at the back of church asking for comments on our dreams for the next 5 years. Only a handful of people commented (see below) but all thought we were thinking along the right lines.

1. Be a joyful people of God who have grown in faith
  - Make church more accessible to all e.g., activities, modern worship and building
  - Pray and reflect more to discern God's will
  - Share our love for God and each other
2. Use our building as a space to develop a thriving Christian Community
  - Steward our resources for maximum effectiveness e.g., time money energy
  - Welcome strangers and those who use the building
  - Use our building to serve the community
3. Sharing and spreading the Good News
  - Welcome new people – be inclusive and accessible
  - Explain our faith as relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century
4. Find new ways to serve the community and those further afield
  - Going out to build relationships as well as using the building

### So what now?

We need to be realistic we have a Sunday morning congregation who are predominantly over 70. Is it likely that in 5 years' time we will have more younger people? Maybe, but they might not be in church for worship on Sunday as in the past. Do we need to find other ways to spread the Good News?

We can't expect to have the same number of volunteers we had before for community work. This is particularly relevant to our work with Children and Families which has been successfully continued by Fiona and helpers during lockdown via email, Facebook and activity packs. We miss the face-to-face contact so conversations are already underway as to how we can change the way we provide Messy Church, Little Micklers etc. There may be jobs you

could do that don't involve hands on, for example providing ideas for crafts and activities. The current funding for Fiona's post runs out in August 2022, so we need to ensure via grants and committed giving that this work continues.

We have made a start to make the foyer more welcoming and provide a space for people to sit. The next step is to try out having someone around to chat at busy times. Could you volunteer for this? It could be a sitting down job.

There will soon be a bench outside the church where people can sit maybe you could chat to someone there?

As our regular meetings start again could we extend our invitation more widely?

Are there any other activities we could provide which the community needs?

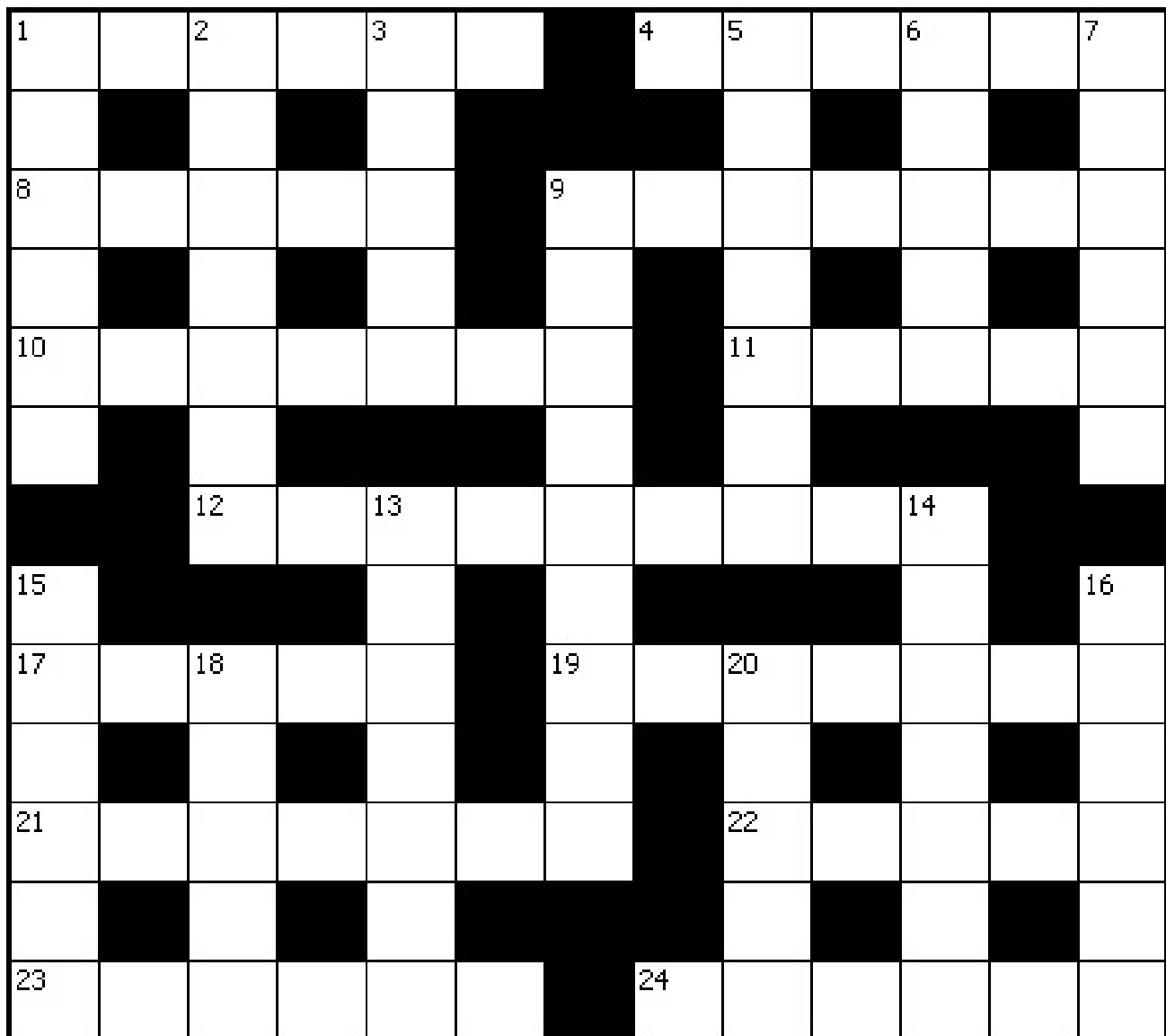
One activity which we are hoping will get underway is a community lunch, following on from the demise of Live at Home lunches. This will be a shared project with Churches Together in Mickleover. No details are available yet as it is still under discussion, but please pray for a successful outcome.

Please let us know if you have any ideas or comments and particularly if you feel there is something you can contribute to. One contribution everyone can make is to pray that we will be ***'the people of God everywhere, everyday'***.

*The Leadership Team – Rev Gill, Dot, Viv, Janet T, Janet P, Laraine and Derrick*

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**The Bereavement Journey** - a 6-session course starting on Monday 27th September at Mickleover Methodist Church for those who are grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss. The first 5 sessions will include the following topics: attachment, separation, and loss; the impact and pain of bereavement; adjusting to change; anger and guilt; coping with others' reactions; moving on healthily. And there is an optional 6th session on faith questions. This course is open to all, for more information and a registration form please phone or email the church office.



### Clues Across

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained ... by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
- 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
- 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
- 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
- 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
- 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)
- 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
- 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)

21 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)

22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)

23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)

24 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

### Clues Down

1 Popular Christian author and humorist, Plass (6)

2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)

3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)

5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)

6 Lonny (anag.) (5)

7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)

9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)

13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)

14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)

15 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6)

16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)

18 There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5)

20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)

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**20th Anniversary Celebration Sunday 12th September** – You are all invited to join in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the opening of the 'new' Mickleover Methodist Church Centre at 10am morning worship on 12<sup>th</sup> September, and with lunch afterwards.

If you would like to attend the celebration lunch, please sign the list in church or contact the church office by email: [church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk](mailto:church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk) or office phone: 01332 735052 giving any dietary requirements.

From Fiona, Children and Families Worker

'I just want to take a moment to say 'Thank you' to all who have supported the children and families work over these strange times in so many different ways.

Over summer we have tried out a few different ideas, including a family walk and getting 'hands on' and messy, making up planters as well as enjoying playing games together. We have tried out some new resources from 'Muddy Church' too!

We have also had a parent and baby support group running, which has given new parents a much-needed outlet to meet others and reduce isolation.

As things ease, we hope to restart some form of Messy Church in October, but we are still looking at what format it may take going forward. (Messy Church/BRF have launched 'Messy Church Goes Wild' which uses outdoor activities much more and sounds very exciting!)

We are also recruiting for helpers for this as well as the youth group (Pathfinders). Please get in touch if you can help in any way, and your prayers remain as needed as ever. Every Blessing, Fiona'

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Do you take any tablets that come in blister packs? Did you know these blister packs can be recycled? St John's church already recycles them and Christine Ager has offered to take the empty blister packs collected at MMC to St John's for recycling. So please start saving the blister packs when you have taken all the tablets and bring them to church for recycling when you are able.

Also Janet Patmore is collecting empty crisp packets for her daughter's school for recycling to provide funds to buy books for the school library.

**Community of Hope Wall hanging - Closing date 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

Finished squares can be put into a box in the foyer at Mickleover Methodist Church  
Further information: email at [church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk](mailto:church.office@mickleovermethodist.org.uk) or  
[admin@allsaintsmickleover.org.uk](mailto:admin@allsaintsmickleover.org.uk) Or by telephone on 735052 or 510446



## God In Love Unites Us – The Next Step

At the recent Methodist Conference, the God In Love Unites Us recommendations were ratified by a very large majority. Synods throughout the country voted in favour of ratification except for the Orkney and Shetland District. In Derby and Nottingham District there was an extra session of synod to discuss and vote on the proposals with a vote in favour of over three quarters (if my maths is correct). The report has undergone a long process of debate, discussion, seeking views and a two year wait for a final vote. It has not been a rushed through decision even by Methodist standards. The Methodist Young Peoples` conferences have also expressed that they too are in favour of the report.

The matter has now been put back into the domain of the individual churches and ministers for them to make their decisions. Churches must now decide whether same-sex marriages will be able to take place within that church. Ministers will have to decide whether they will officiate at such marriages. These choices should be made independently of each other. Church members should not try to influence ministers in their decision and equally church members should be under no influence from a minister when making their choice. If a church is in agreement that same-sex marriages can take place but the minister has decided not to officiate in these ceremonies, then couples will be put in touch with a minister who is willing to do so.

I would urge everyone involved in this matter to read (again?) the GILUU report as a very far-reaching choice has to be made and should not be made on a whim. The report is available on the Methodist website and I have a paper copy should anyone wish to borrow it. I have tried to point out what must now take place and how we are all involved. I hope that I have stuck to facts only, it is not my intention here to express my opinion. Please consider your responses carefully, with diligence and with prayer.

Phil Royle

**ACROSS** 1 access; 4 blinds; 8 rhyme; 9 loyalty; 10 Antwerp; 11 Aeon; 12 loftiness; 17 Satan; 19 Obadiah; 21 on earth; 22 storm; 23 exhale; 24 depths  
**DOWN** 1 Adrian; 2 crystal; 3 siege; 5 lay bare; 6 nylon; 7 saying; 9 Lappidoth; 13 funeral; 14 spit out; 15 ashore; 16 Thomas; 18 teeth; 20 aisle.

# Eco Church: Everything You Need to Know

Eco Church is A Rocha UK's award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth.

A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world, both as a response to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and as a demonstration of the Christian hope for God's world.

Since they believe that caring for God's earth is a necessary part of Christian discipleship, engaging with Christians and churches is at the heart of their strategy. Their primary means of such engagement is Eco Church— a new, web-based award scheme designed to motivate and resource churches in establishing caring for God's earth as an integral part of their everyday work and witness.

At the heart of Eco Church is a unique, online survey that enables churches to both record what they are already doing to care for God's earth, and to reflect on what further steps they can take to that end and then act accordingly.

The survey covers all areas of church life:

Worship and Teaching:

Management of Church Buildings and Land:

Community and Global Engagement:

Lifestyle.

It challenges churches to act in respect of the songs they sing and of the food they serve; of the energy they use and of the ethics of their investments; of the wildlife that finds a home on their land and of the water that flushes their loos; and so on...

For more information go to [How Eco Church Works - Eco Church \(arocha.org.uk\)](http://How Eco Church Works - Eco Church (arocha.org.uk))

**ECO CHURCH PRAYER:** O Lord our God, who brought your people into a good land, and sends showers of blessing that the earth shall yield its increase; flourish within us your gift of faith that, in our worship, our churches, our communities, and our lives, we may honour and renew your creation and join in obedience with the wind and the waters, the wilderness and the desert, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, and all created things to give glory and praise to the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## *Greetings from Sally Jones*

I hope you are all well and that you have had time over the summer to relax and perhaps do some of the things that Covid has prevented us from doing for so long.

Firstly, my heartfelt thanks for all the prayers and good wishes I received as I left Mickleover Methodist, and for the beautiful gift. As I write, we have begun moving into the manse at Warwick, and I am planning where is best to hang my beautiful picture. It fills my heart with gratitude for you all whenever I look at it.

I wonder if you, like me, feel this is a uniquely exciting time to be a Methodist in Britain? As we begin to adjust to our life with Covid-19, as we celebrate our first black female President of Conference, as we reflect on the decisions made about the opportunities for same-sex couples to be married in Methodist churches, I am aware that we have the extraordinary privilege – and responsibility – of being God’s people called Methodists in a time of great potential and opportunity. I pray that we will embrace this time, and use it well, to serve the everlasting, unfailing God who adores us and cherishes us more than we will ever know.

My prayers are with you.

With love, *Sally*

.....

### **Food Bank box in Church**

As you are shopping would you consider buying some of the items below for the Foodbank, which they are currently short of:

- Tinned meat (curry, stew)
- Tinned vegetables (carrots, peas)
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned fruit (pears, peaches)
- Tinned rice pudding
- Pasta sauce
- Tea (40 bags) or coffee
- Biscuits (small packet)
- Tinned tuna
- UHT milk (500ml)

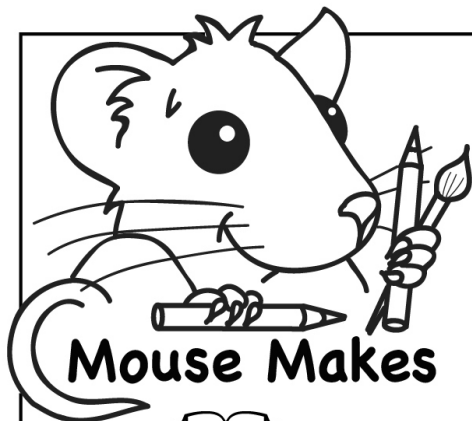
### **CTM Prayer Walk for Mickleover**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 10-15am**

Meet at St. John’s Car Park. We walk for about an hour in the local streets, praying for God’s blessing upon the people, the community and businesses in the area, listening to God for anything He may want to show us.

If you would like to join us please contact me,  
,at [ray\\_lee16@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ray_lee16@yahoo.co.uk) or  
phone 239645.

Thanks Ray Lee



## The bowl of flour and the jar of oil

It had not rained for months and months, there was a drought in the land.

God sent His prophet **Elijah** to the town of Zarephath. At the town gate he saw a widow gathering firewood.

"Please bring me a drink of water and some bread." he asked her.



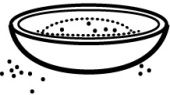
She answered "All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil in a jar, it is our last meal."

"Do not worry." Elijah said, "Make the meal and make a small loaf for me."

Read this story in  
1 Kings 17:7-16

The woman did what Elijah had asked and God blessed her ...

... The bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil until it rained again!



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

Find these words from the story in the word search:

WORD • LORD • GOD • ELIJAH • SENT • ZAREPHATH • GATE • CITY • WIDOW  
STICKS • WATER • DRINK • BREAD • FEED • HANDFUL • FLOUR • LITTLE  
OIL • SON • EAT • DIE • FULL • WENT • MAKE • BAKED • ATE • JAR • JUG • MANY  
DAYS • LIVE • NEVER • EMPTY