

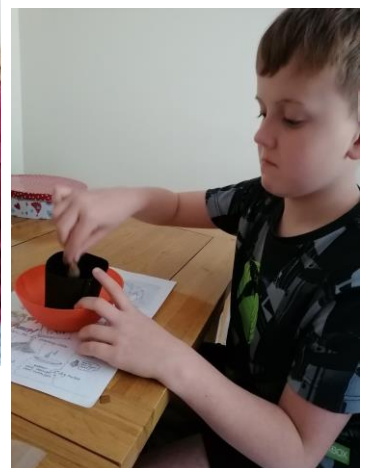
Nov
2021

CHRIS CROSS

AT HOME

*...issued monthly to keep
you in touch, with things to read
and things to do.*

**Here are photos of some of the activities
from last month, some finished, some being done.**





Wow!! I have just realised that this month we are celebrating 12 years of Chriscross. Sadly we haven't been able to have our usual 'Chriscross Party' for a while, and I'm afraid this year is no exception, but we do hope you will be able to celebrate at home by perhaps lighting a candle on top of one of the cakes you will be making as an activity this time, and sing "Happy Birthday" at the same time remembering all your friends at Chriscross.

So we know we are making cakes, but I wonder what else you will be making or doing?

Our story is about the Parable of the Lost Sheep. You might be thinking what has this to do with a party? Well, the good shepherd was so happy that his one lost sheep had returned, and although I would imagine he didn't have a party, he was indeed very pleased and excited that all his sheep were together again, he would have celebrated in some way.

We hope you enjoy all that we have put together for you, and a "Happy Birthday Chriscross" from us all.

Rachael



For this issue, we asked Jeannette to tell us something about herself, so this is...

All About Jeannette

I was born in a miner's cottage at Old Mills, Paulton where I spent the first sixteen years of my life. Since then I have lived in Farrington Gurney, Radstock and now in Midsomer Norton. I have two sisters, Isobel and Josie, a daughter, Sally, a son Steven and five grandchildren, Zia, William, Florence, Charlie and Henry.

My mother was an Anglican and my father a Methodist. Although I went to Sunday school at Holy Trinity Church, Paulton and was christened, confirmed and married there I was always drawn towards Methodism attending Farrington Gurney and Radstock. I became a member in 1984.

I love gardening and going to garden Shows and visiting open gardens. I enjoy reading, jigsaw puzzles, spending time with friends, the theatre and quizzes. I have an interest in astronomy and have been lucky enough to view four solar eclipses in different parts of the world.



Church has been a big part of my life and Chriscross has been particularly special. Thank you all for your support.

The Lost Sheep

Jesus told lots of stories and lots of people came to listen. Some people had asked why he spent time talking to people who had done bad things as well as to good people, so he told this story to explain.

Once there was a shepherd, who had lots and lots of sheep to look after. They were all a little bit different to look at and he knew them all by sight.



Each day he would gather them in from the fields and put them into a pen overnight to keep them safe until the morning, and as he did so he would count them. If he had counted them using his fingers he would soon have run out - there were 100 of them!

One evening he started counting - 1, 2, 3 ... 54, 55, 56 ... 97, 98, 99. He was just about to say '100 hundred' when he realised there were no more sheep - one was missing and he knew which one it was! What was he going to do? He had 99 sheep safe and sound but he wanted **all** his sheep, they were all important to him.

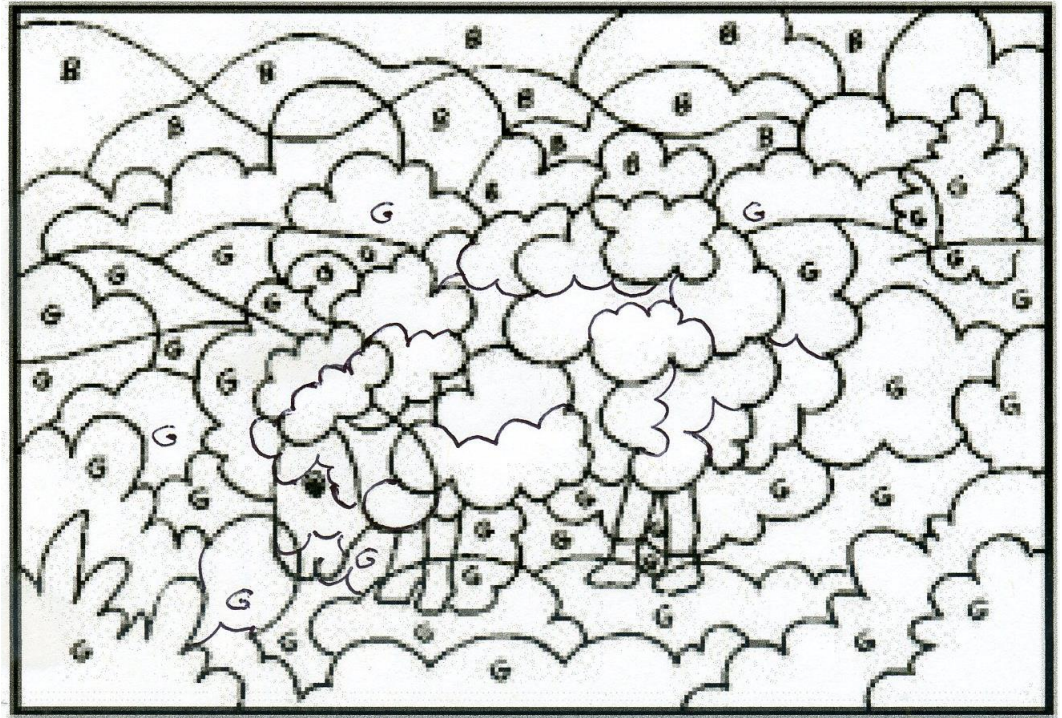
He wondered where the missing one might be, so off he went to look for it. He looked everywhere - he looked in fields, he looked behind trees, he walked up hills and down into valleys, and just when he thought he wasn't going to find it, there it was trapped in a tangle of thorns.

He was so happy to have found it that he shouted 'Hooray' out loud!! The shepherd put the sheep round his shoulders and carried it safely back to the pen. Then he called out to his neighbours to come and celebrate with him because he had found his lost sheep.



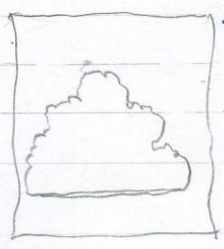
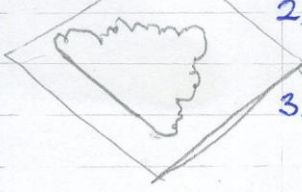
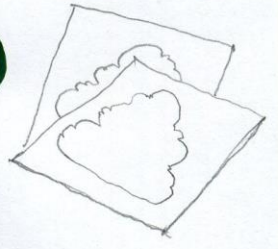
When Jesus had finished the story, he told the crowd that God is like the shepherd and we are like the sheep. Sometimes people wander away from God and get a bit lost, so someone has to look for them and talk to them, and when they come back to God it's a time for great celebrations.

Colour in the blue (B) and green (G) to reveal the sheep.



find the Lost Sheep

CARD GAME



A game for 1 or more players.
A pack of cards is enclosed, ready for use.

1. place each card face down so that you cannot see the figure. (or the sheep)
2. Shuffle the cards around so that you forget where the sheep is!
3. Take it in turns to flip over one card to try to locate the lost sheep.
4. You can leave the turned card with number showing.

The winner is the shepherd who finds the lost sheep.

If you play alone or play more than one game together, add the figures up and the winner is the one with the lowest overall score!



'Sheep' Cakes

(You may need to ask an adult to help)

Basic cake recipe and instructions

Heat the oven to 180°C or Gas Mark 5.

Put 56 grams each of caster sugar, flour and soft margarine into a bowl with 1 beaten egg and a few drops of vanilla essence (optional).

Mix thoroughly, preferably with a hand-held electric mixer.

Put level desert spoonfuls into paper cases (should fill 6/7). Cook for approx. 15 minutes, until light brown and well risen. Cool on a wire tray.

Decorating the cakes

When the cakes are cold, beat 40 grams of butter or margarine until soft and then add 80 grams icing sugar and beat again until smooth. Mix in a few drops of vanilla essence (optional). Use this to cover the tops of your cakes.

For the first 3 cakes

In your CHRISCROSS AT HOME pack you have some chocolate buttons. Put one onto the icing at the front of each cake (this will be the face), then fill up the rest of the space with mini marshmallows standing on end to be the sheep's fleece. Put a tiny spot of icing on each of the edible eyes and add two to each chocolate button.

For the 4th cake

Add the candle in your pack to this cake to be your CHRISCROSS birthday cake!



If you have any marshmallows or chocolate buttons left you can use these to decorate the remaining cakes.

How to make the Sheep

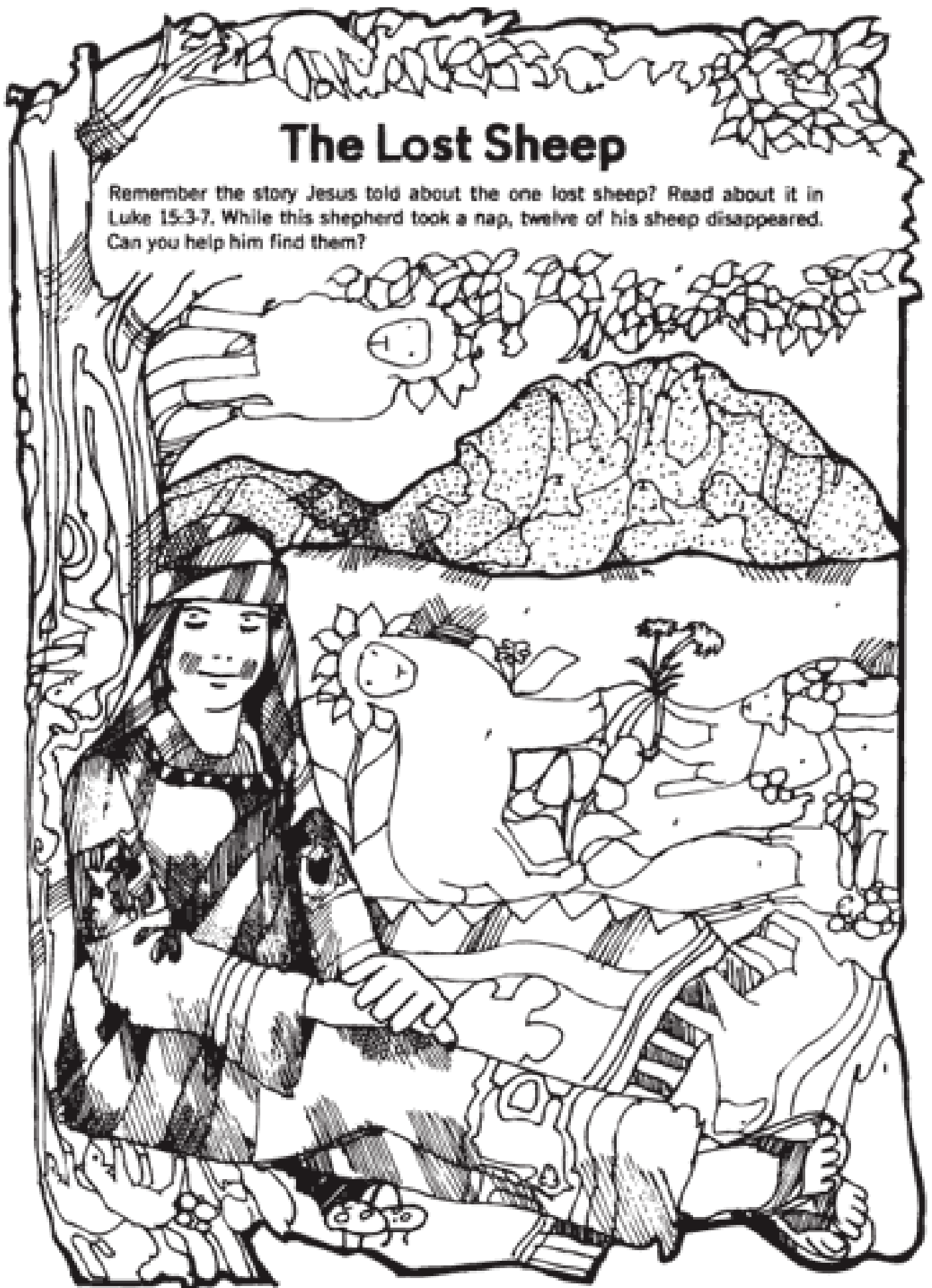
1. Colour and cut out the face and legs of the sheep.
2. Glue the cotton wool onto the body and the top of the head.
3. Glue the head onto the body.
4. Finally glue the legs onto the body. Make sure the back legs are slightly higher than the front ones as in the picture.





The Lost Sheep

Remember the story Jesus told about the one lost sheep? Read about it in Luke 15:3-7. While this shepherd took a nap, twelve of his sheep disappeared. Can you help him find them?



From Revd. Martin

Do you feel sorry for the lost sheep? Perhaps he was tired and couldn't keep up with the rest of the flock, or maybe he wasn't concentrating on where he was going, and managed to wander off the track and get himself lost. He must have been frightened on his own, and worried that the shepherd would never find him again.

What is your most prized possession? Is it a toy, or something you were given by someone special? Imagine how you might feel if you lost it somewhere? Even when we are very careful, it is sometimes easy to lose things, especially if they are very small, because there are so many hiding places. But how excited would you be when you find it? That is how excited Jesus is when he finds us.

One lost sheep is very small, but it is important to the Shepherd, so he goes to look for him. Sometimes we are so busy concentrating on what we want, that we don't always concentrate on following Jesus, and we can get a bit lost. But he never wants to lose us, no matter how small we are, so just like the Shepherd, he will always keep trying to find us. And when he does, there is a great celebration because he is so happy to have found us again. It is like the ChrisCross birthday party we are celebrating today. But we don't have to wait for another year to celebrate knowing Jesus, because Jesus celebrates knowing us every day.

Let's pray together

We thank you loving God, that you love us so much, that even when we lose you, you always come to find us. We are never lost, because you are always there for us, and will never leave us alone. Help us to celebrate and be thankful. Amen

**God bless
Martin**

