

Half-term Holiday Club

Thirteen children attended our one-day half-term Holiday Club. They had lots of fun, including crafts, and songs, and heard the story of Zacchaeus, and of Jesus stilling the storm on Galilee. They also made models from Lego, with thousands of pieces to choose from.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Because of the empty tomb, we have peace. Because of His resurrection, we can have peace during even the most troubling of times because we know He is in control of all that happens in the world. — *Paul Chappell*.

Without the resurrection, Christianity would be so much wishful thinking, taking its place alongside all other human philosophy and religious speculation. — *Dr. John MacArthur*.

Without Christ there is no hope. — *Charles Spurgeon*.

A PRAYER



O God, we thank you that through His death and resurrection, Your Son Jesus Christ opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers, defeating death, the "last enemy", and making eternal life available to all who will receive it. In His name. Amen.



SMILE

A Sunday School teacher asked the children in her class, "If I sold my house and my car, and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?" "NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the lawn, and kept everything tidy, would I get into heaven?" Again, the answer was "NO!"

"Well then, how can I get to heaven?"

In the back of the room, a five-year-old boy shouted out, "You've got to be dead!"

A policeman stopped a driver, and said, "Your tail light's not working, three of your tyres need replacing and your bumper is hanging off. That will be £300." The driver said, "All right, go ahead. They want twice as much as that at the garage."

Amusing but true

Living on earth may be expensive, but it includes an annual free trip around the sun.

Garage sales are a con. They sell all the trash but never the garage.

You're not old until a teenager describes you as middle-aged.

Serving God can be hard, but the retirement plan is out of this world.

A man arrived at a restaurant early, and the manager said, "We're very busy. Do you mind waiting for a while?"

"Not at all," the man replied.

"Good," said the manager, "Then please would you take these drinks to table nine?"

The MESSENGER

*West Camel
Independent
Methodist Church*

NO. 518
APRIL-MAY
2022

Our services are held at
All Saints Church



REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

Sundays: 6pm (4pm on 1st Sunday of the month)

Bible studies on "Zoom" monthly as announced.

MINISTER: Mr Ray Ursell (Tel. 01884 821375)

SECRETARY: Mrs Elizabeth Chapman, Mead Farm, Downhead. (Tel. 01935 850838)

**WORSHIP
CO-ORDINATOR:** Mr Geoff Chapman, Mead Farm, Downhead. (Tel. 01935 850838)

MUSICIANS: Mr Geoff Chapman and Mrs Judy Purnell

EDITOR: Mr Geoff Chapman.

[A member of the Independent Methodist Connexion of Churches](#)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
(1 Peter 1: 3-4)

EDITORIAL

LIFE BEGINS AT EASTER!*

There was once a man who announced that he was going to found a new religion to replace Christianity. One of his friends remarked, "Well, all you have to do is get yourself killed, and then rise from the dead!" That friend made a vital point: it is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead which is central to Christianity and sets it apart from all other religions. Our faith is founded on that historic happening.

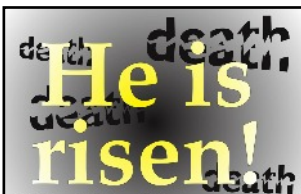
In some parts of the world, followers of Buddhism hold great religious festivals at which they parade greatly revered relics, such as the bones or teeth of Buddha. One of the greatest ambitions of every Muslim is to visit the tomb of Mohammed at Mecca. Even the Russian communists, despite being against religion, would visit the tomb of Lenin in Red Square, Moscow (right) to pay homage to their dead leader. By contrast, Christians worship and follow a Leader who is alive, and who lives in His Church in the Person and presence of the Holy Spirit.



Bernt Rostad CC BY 2.0

The Christian faith is a living faith in a living Lord. The resurrection is a fact of history. The tomb of Jesus **was** found to be empty after His lifeless body had been laid there, and over 500 people testified that they had met the risen Christ. What is more, countless millions down through the centuries have found that Jesus is alive, and have proved His life-changing power — power to forgive sin, transform lives, and give meaning and purpose to an otherwise meaningless existence.

The resurrection is important for several reasons. Firstly, it means that the sin problem — which is the cause of all this world's problems — can be solved. A simple faith in Christ's atoning death on the cross brings absolute forgiveness. It also means that death, that deadly enemy and intruder which is feared by millions, has been conquered, and that God and His goodness are more powerful than Satan and all his badness. Dead leaders can't help fallen, sinful humanity, but the living Christ can, does, and will save all who truly turn to Him. We are all sinners. However, we can choose to be **forgiven** sinners, and possess a new, eternal life, and victory over death itself, just as Jesus is alive for ever. This is a message of hope that no other religion or creed can offer or give. Is Easter-time just a holiday — a chance to catch up with the spring-cleaning or gardening? Or is it a joyful celebration of a great victory in which you share? If not, this could be the first **real** Easter for you!



If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies. (Romans 8: 11)

*Adapted and reprinted from *The Messenger* No. 219, April 1984

SUNDAY SERVICES

April	3rd	4pm	"Sunday @ Four" (U.S.)
"	10th	6pm	Mrs Kate Rawlins of Gillingham PALM SUNDAY
"	17th	6pm	Mr Ray Ursell (H.C.) EASTER SUNDAY
"	24th	6pm	Mr Chris Spracklen of Martock
May	1st	4pm	"Sunday @ Four" (U.S.)
"	8th	6pm	Mr Steve Derby of Ditcheat
"	15th	6pm	Mr Ian McInnes of Yeovil
"	22nd	6pm	Mr Steve Roles of Yeovil
"	29th	6pm	Mr Geoff Chapman

(H. C. = Holy Communion)



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15th
10.30am United Service on the VILLAGE GREEN
Followed by hot cross buns, tea and coffee in the church.
11.15am
Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

We extend our deepest sympathy and love to Des and Pauline Lawrence and their family in their sad bereavement. Also to the family of Jane Hemingway. Our prayers are with them in their time of sadness and loss.

ADVANCE NOTICE: Sunday June 5th. 10am. United Service to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee (No PM service that day).

NEWS FROM THE PAST

From *The Western Gazette* 50 years ago

A sale, organised by the Methodist Church, was held at the Parish Hall. Items included jumble, cakes, produce and general items. Proceeds of £20 were for the work of missionary Ted Blackmore in Zambia. (April 14th 1972)

On Sunday evening a young people's 'get-together' was held at Lower Farm. There was a 'Bible Music' quiz, and Mr David Sawyer of Street spoke. (April 14th 1972)

Sunday School Anniversary services were held at the Methodist Church on Sunday and Tuesday. At all the services the scholars gave a programme of choruses, songs and recitations. On Sunday morning the service was conducted by Mr Brian Andrew of Yeovil and in the evening by the Rev. Arnold Page of Castle Cary. On Tuesday the speaker was Mr E A Morgan of Bruton. Collections raised £17.78 for Sunday School Funds. (28th April 1972).