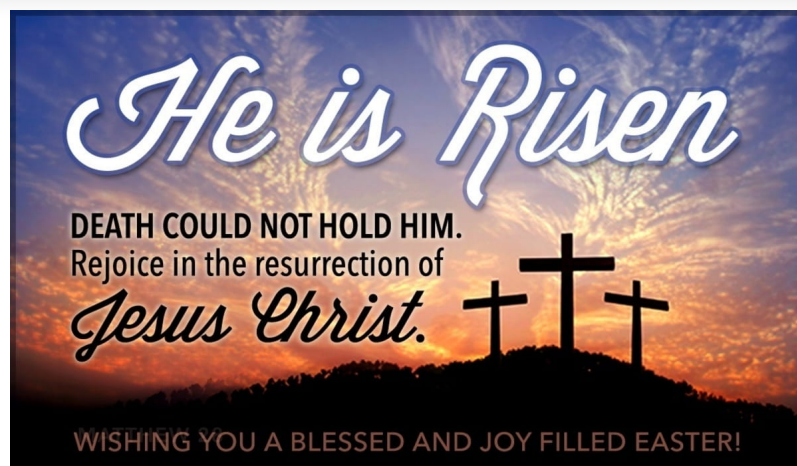


Wonford Methodist Church

Contact Newsletter

April 2019
(No: 477)



Minister: Rev Ben Haslam (01392 256716)



Wonford is a
Fairtrade church

The **Methodist Church**

www.wonfordmethodistchurch.org.uk



@WonfordMethodistChurch



A Message From The Minister

Dear Friends,

The noted Methodist minister Donald Soper was preaching up a storm one day in Hyde Park when, not unusually, some heckling occurred. Soper had been talking about the wonder of God's creation, when a voice from the crowd shouted, "what about the wonder of science? Give me the right equipment and I could do some of that". Soper's reply was masterly: "Ok, make us a rabbit then, just to give us confidence". No rabbit was forthcoming, but the point was well made. God can do what we cannot. It sounds so simple, but it's a fact we don't always allow to sink in. We often assume, in our Church life, that if something can't happen by purely human effort, then it will never happen at all. In many ways, we've lost confidence in the God who brought us, the earth and the entire cosmos into being.

As Easter approaches, let's remember that this festival isn't just a ritual, to be marked with special services and hymns. Easter is a yearly reminder that God intervened in human history in the most dramatic, transformative, earth shattering way possible. Easter is God's rescue plan for a wayward and lost humanity. The raising of Jesus from the dead is only part of the miracle of Easter. The healing of the breach between us and God, which we could never achieve by our own efforts, and the defeat of the power of death and sin over our lives should continually give us pause to wonder and rejoice.

Easter changes everything. Easter means that we can now live our lives intimately in relationship with our creator. Jesus is alive and is with us and as we journey through life, we can do so with the presence and power and guidance of the Holy Spirit too. The Spirit gives us purpose, comfort, hope and inner resources that otherwise we just wouldn't have. Easter also assures us that even in the brokenness and darkness of the world, God can bring new life and hope and healing, not by bypassing the darkness, but by entering into it, transfiguring and transforming as He does so. Easter means there is always hope. Easter proves God is active in the world. All He needs is people to live their new, resurrection lives to the full, to be fully the people God is calling them to be, and to communicate this good news to others. Can we do that?

With every blessing

Ben Haslam

Dates For April 2019

Coffee

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| 7th | Liz & Pauline |
| 14th | Susan L & Jenny T |
| 21st | TBA |
| 28th | Eileen & Melanie |



Flowers

| | |
|------|-----------------------|
| 7th | Madeline |
| 14th | TBA |
| 21st | Easter Sunday - Mandy |
| 28th | Eileen |



Home Group

This group is now meeting fortnightly on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm in different members' homes, as our Sunday Screen Notices will tell each time. We will be listening to the David Coffey tapes from the last Met conference. Anyone is welcome to come and join us as we explore the Bible together. Come with your questions or thoughts to help us, please!

24th April **14 Grainger Close**

Minister's Bible Study

This is a new group set up by Rev Ben Haslam. The next meeting will be on Thursday 18th April 2019 at 2pm in the lounge. All welcome. It is likely to include some discussion and Bible Study.

Opening Up Our Church on Holy Saturday Morning

After a conversation at Christianity Explored about the importance of celebrating the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, a few of us decided to open up Wonford Methodist Church on Saturday 20th April 10am to 12.30pm. We want to encourage people from the community to come in and find out more about the importance of the Easter story, so we will open the church to everyone (whilst it is being decorated by Mandy and others from the church) and offer free refreshments to be served in the church hall. There will also be a depiction of the three days of the Easter story (the crucifixion, death & resurrection of Jesus Christ) along with leaflets to help explain the christian message of Easter, a prayer tree, an activity & craft

table for children and we hope to have some music.

Everyone is welcome to come along in the morning and if you have any other ideas to help or can donate cakes/ biscuits then please let me know.

Sue Keatt

Wonford Methodist Church Annual Church Meeting

After the morning service on Sunday 7 April 2019 we will hold a light bring & share lunch followed by our General Church Meeting.

This meeting is open to all within the life of the church at Wonford.

At the start of the meeting we shall elect representatives to the Church Council and people to serve as Church Stewards for the coming year. If you would like to nominate anyone for election, please give their name (with that person's consent) in writing/email to Rev Ben Haslam, or Alison Howell, by the 1st April 2019.

The meeting encourages us to reflect on some aspects of our life together – this year once the main business has been completed, Tony will lead us in a discussion on Church Growth.

Please do put the date in your diary and join with us on the day.

Alison Howell

Wonford Community News

Wonford Village and the Great House

There was a moated medieval manor on the site of Birch Court (previously The Gardeners Arms) right next door to Wonford Methodist Church!

Heavitree Squilometre, a place-based arts and heritage group, have chosen this 'Great House' and Wonford Village as their project for 2019.

The events and activities will be decided by the people who get involved in the 'Wonford Pod'. Find out more at www.heavitreesquilometre.org

Wonford Community Day

This will take place on Saturday 1st June at Wonford Community and Learning Centre and the playing field behind.

Please think about how your group can be involved.

OPEN THE BOOK (AN OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY AT COUNTRESS WEAR PRIMARY SCHOOL)

Have you ever wanted to share the riches of the Bible stories with others but wondered how?

'Open the Book' provides such an opportunity for any Christian.

Every other Tuesday afternoon, in term time, a small team visit Countess Wear School with Anglican friends from St Margaret's and St Luke's and shares a story from the Lion Storyteller Bible using simple props and a little dialogue. No acting experience required!

(On the other Tuesday afternoons in term time we meet at Wonford Methodist Church to plan and rehearse our presentation).

I want to emphasise the JOY we find in this ministry which is matched by the welcome and enthusiasm of the children and staff.

WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE OUR FAITH.

Why not join us? All you require is to be free on Tuesday afternoons in term time – transport provided! Speak to one of the team for more information.

And do come along to one of our rehearsals or presentations.

Rev Terry Spencer.

(on behalf of the Methodist part of the Open the Book Team which includes Margretta Bowstead, Karen Lord and Bill Noronha)

PS We are all ill or have appointments at times on Tuesdays which is why we need a larger team to draw upon to help us prepare and plan our presentations.

Church Green Team Update

Have you been enjoying reading the articles and posters put up on our lovely new Hall boards? I do hope you're noticing that we are trying to keep you all well informed on the little bits of news about ways we can help. Recently on 'our' board we had a yellow poster saying -

THIS BOTTLE IS UTTER RUBBISH

At the same time if you'd been in our kitchen you'd have seen some new washing-up liquid to use and comment on. In fact all the messages I got were very happy with the change to "Ecover" and so we'll be using that

from now on. I expect you've fully grasped that the poster was telling us that the bottles are completely recyclable!! So that's another move in the right direction – all these are little steps towards saving God's World. Perhaps you also saw on the recent Fairtrade stall some different toilet paper? – do ask Monika Noronha if you are interested in that!

Margretta – Church Green Team

Wool-Craft Group

The last meeting for the current Autumn, Winter and Spring session of this group will be on Tuesday 30 April 2019. We will then have a break during the summer months. We will begin meeting again on Tuesday 24 September 2019.

Everyone is very welcome at our meetings where we knit or crochet, have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat. Beginners are very welcome, we will do our best to help you! Needles, crochet hooks and yarn can be provided although you are very welcome to bring your own if you wish.

During our latest session we have knitted several items for the Seafarers Mission, a big box of knitted items was sent to them just before Christmas. Another box of items will be sent after the 30 April. You are welcome to bring your own project or come and knit for charity-this can be a charity of your choice or the charity the group is choosing to support.

Linda Clarke and Lisa Thomas

Heavitree Ecumenical Lent Services

These will be held in each of the 5 Heavitree Churches as happened successfully last year. Held on Wednesdays at 12 noon, it starts with a 10-15 minute Service and then is followed by a "soup & roll lunch" – and money donations go to the Foodbank. This time the Lent Service will at Wonford on Weds. 3rd April; and any willing helper that day, please talk with Margretta this month.

Do attend any that you can at 12 noon -

Wed. 3rd April

Wonford Methodist Church, Wonford.

Wed. 10th April

United Reformed Church, Fore Street, Heavitree.

Margretta

Prayer Focus for April

Pray Without Ceasing!

As Easter is fast approaching. April 14th is Palm Sunday. Although a triumphant entry into Jerusalem things were about to change. In the lead up to Good Friday, April 19th, pray for the Walk of Witness, that all aspects of the event will run smoothly and people will be drawn to seek our Lord Jesus into their own lives. Prepare your hearts as you remember just what our Lord did for us on the cross. And indeed in the days leading up to it. He went through all He did for our forgiveness. Maybe it is a time for us to forgive others that have hurt us in the past. On Easter Sunday we celebrate the triumphant resurrection on that first Easter Sunday morning.

Remember each day to pray for all who are leading worship each Sunday and those leading Bible studies, Messy Church and Girls' Brigade and any other event that may take place at Wonford.

This month in our own Country pray for the victims of knife crime. Remember the families involved either by the loss of loved ones or by that fact that their family member has committed these crimes. Pray for our police force as they seek ways to combat such crimes.

In the wider world pray for the innocent children help in refugee camps without sufficient food, clothing or medical aid. Pray that governments worldwide will take those children to safety in their own lands.

May you all be richly blessed as you pray for all the activities at Wonford, surrounding area & the wider world.



If you have anything that you would like included please let Julie Rothwell know so that I can include it here.

Our Prayer Phone Link

Should you, or those you know, wish to be supported in prayer, the first contact is now Rev Alan Rothwell (01392 926840). Your request will then be passed to members of the Prayer Link who will pray for your need. If the first contact is unavailable, please contact Margretta Bowstead (01392 437329) or Rose Smith (01404 510853)

After Service Prayer Support

This is available in the Quiet Room on Sunday mornings. Two members of the Prayer Team will be available to pray with you.

Donations for Raffle and Bingo Prizes

Jenny Tregale would like to thank all those who have donated prizes for the raffle and bingo.

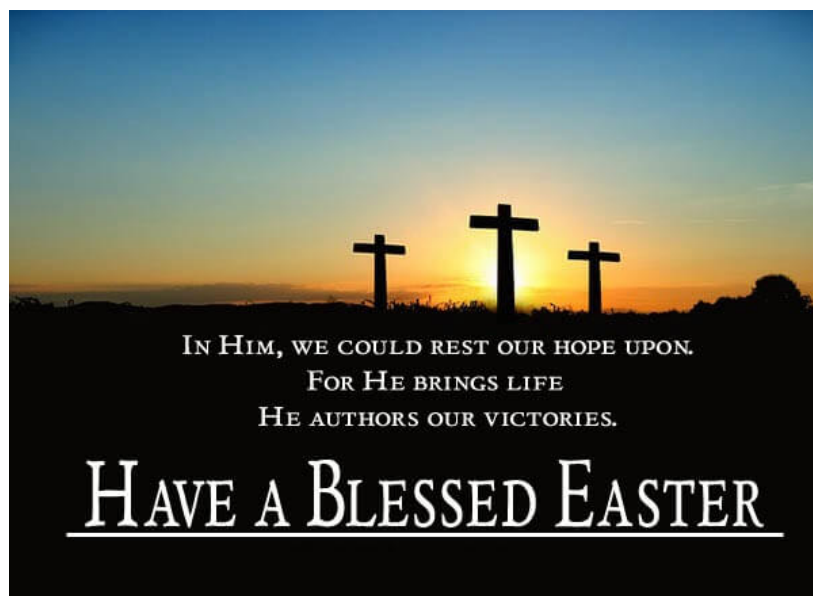
Passion for Exeter

There will be a United Service in the Cathedral at 10am on Good Friday (Friday 19th April 2019). This will be followed by songs and testimonies in Princesshay Square and music and readings on Cathedral Green.

Good Friday at Silverton Methodist Church

Annual Walk & Service

Silverton Methodist are once again hosting this circuit event. It starts with a walk from Killerton (meet in the car park at 2.30pm) through the woods to Silverton. There is then a picnic tea at Silverton Methodist Church at 4pm (drinks provided by the church) followed by a service at 5pm with the Wonford music group. Lifts will be provided back to Killerton after the service for those who have left their cars.

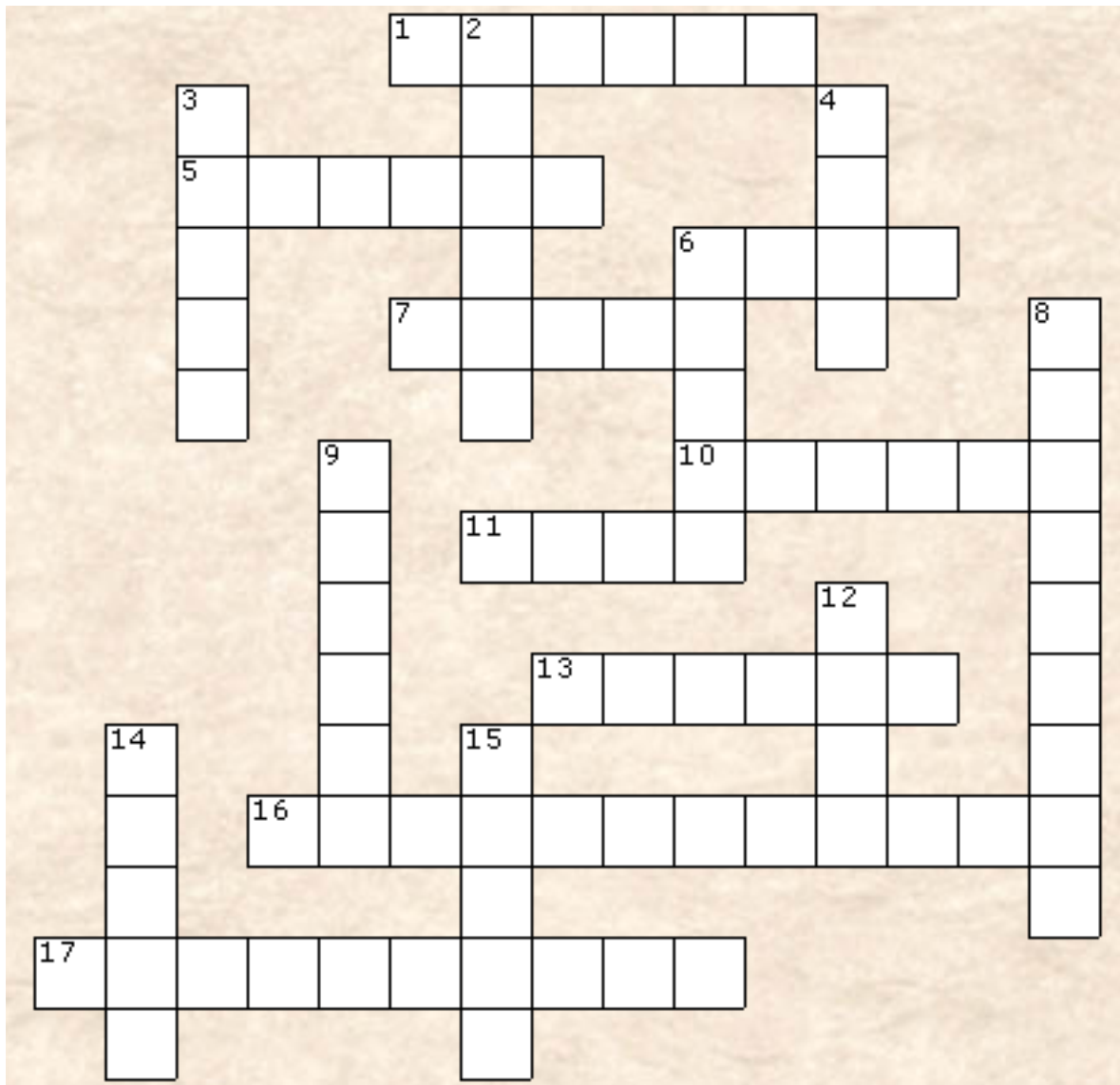


Easter Word Search

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ANGELS
 APOSTLES
 BETRAYAL
 BLOOD
 CALVARY
 CROSS
 CROWN OF THORNS
 CRUCIFIXION
 DARKNESS
 DEATH
 EARTHQUAKE
 EASTER
 GOLGOTHA
 HIGH PRIEST
 JESUS CHRIST
 JOSEPH
 JUDAS ISCARIOT
 KING
 LAMB

MARY
 NAILS
 PASSOVER
 PIECES OF SILVER
 PIERCED
 PILATE
 RESURRECTION
 ROBE
 ROMANS
 SACRIFICE
 SIMON OF CYRENE
 SOLDIERS
 SON OF GOD
 SPEAR
 STONE
 TEMPLE
 THIEVES
 THREE DAYS
 TOMB



ACROSS

- 1 Jesus
 2 After 40 days, Jesus ascended to ___
 3 An angel rolled away the ___ covering the tomb
 4 People greeted Jesus with _____ branches
 5 Doubting ___
 6 Jesus rode a ___ into Jerusalem
 6 Where Jesus died
 7 Disciple who denied knowing Jesus
 8 Mary _____ discovered Jesus had risen
 9 _____ sentenced Jesus to die
 10 Easter season
 11 Coloured Easter ___
 12 Season before Easter
 13 ___ of Gethsemane
 14 _____ betrayed Jesus
 15 Easter animal?
 16 Easter celebrates the ___ of Jesus
 17 Sunday before Easter

DOWN

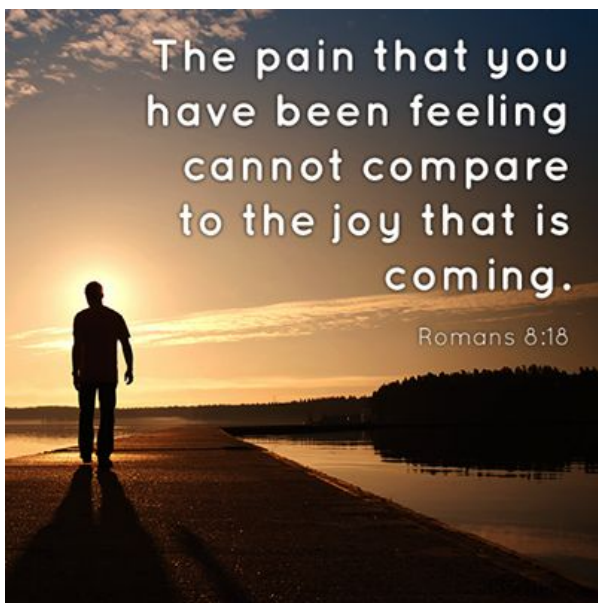
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Dates For Your Diary

April 2019

| | | |
|-------------|------------|--|
| Wed 3rd | 12.00 p.m. | Lent Service & Lunch Wonford Methodist Church ** |
| | 7.30 p.m. | Circuit Meeting - Tedburn St Mary MC |
| Sat 6th | 10.00 a.m. | Plymouth & Exeter Synod, Taunton |
| Sun 7th | 10.00 a.m. | Carolyn Keep - All Age Worship followed by General Church Meeting and Bring & Share Lunch ** |
| | 6.30 p.m. | Karenza Cordery |
| Wed 10th | 12.00 p.m. | Lent Service & Lunch at the URC, Heavitree ** |
| Sun 14th | 10.00 a.m. | Monika Noronha - Palm Sunday |
| | 6.30 p.m. | Joan Wragg - Prayer & Praise |
| Tue 16th | 10.00 a.m. | The Roundabout Café meets (until 12pm) |
| Thu 18th | 2.00 p.m. | Minister's Bible Study meets in the lounge ** |
| | 6.30 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Service - Rev Ben Haslam and Mandy Denton |
| Friday 19th | 10.00 a.m. | Exeter Cathedral Good Friday Service |
| | 2.30 p.m. | Walk from Killerton to Silverton |
| | 4.00 p.m. | Tea at Silverton Methodist Church |
| | 5.00 p.m. | Good Friday Service at Silverton Methodist Church |
| Sun 21st | | Easter Sunday |
| | 10.00 a.m. | Rev Ben Haslam - Easter Day Sacrament |
| | 6.30 p.m. | Rev Steve Santry - Sacrament Service |
| Wed 24th | 7.30 p.m. | Home Group Meets - 14 Grainger Close |
| Sun 28th | 10.00 a.m. | Rev Julian Albrow |
| | 4.00 p.m. | Messy Church |

**** Details in this newsletter or on the notice board in the hall.**



Weekly Activities

Sunday

10.00 a.m. Morning Service and Young Church
(1st Sunday in each month is All-Age Worship)

6.30 p.m. Evening Service
(2nd Sunday in each month is Prayer & Praise)

Monday

Girls' Brigade (4 - 16 year olds) 5.45 to 7pm *A*
7.30 p.m. Away Group Bible Study

Tuesday

9.15 a.m. Weekly Prayers in the Quiet Room
10.00 a.m. The Roundabout Café (3rd Tuesday each month)

Wednesday

7.30 p.m. Home Group Bible Study (fortnightly)

Thursday

2.00 p.m. Minister's Bible Study (3rd Thursday each month)

Friday

9.30 a.m. Friday Toddlers Group *A*

To be sure these take place see Dates to Note or the Notice Board
(*A* = No meeting during school holiday)

The deadline for items for the May 2019 Newsletter will be Sunday 14th April 2019. There is no guarantee of inclusion, but they may be given to:

Andrew Jackson - 19 Hills Orchard, Martock, Somerset. TA12 6DF.
Tel: 01935 826072 or e-mailed to andrew.m.jackson@me.com