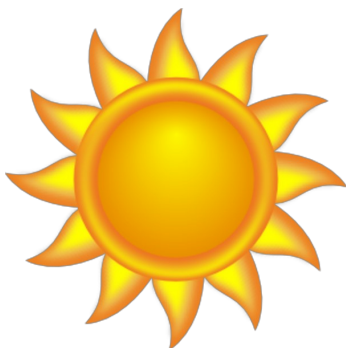




# IVYBRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

*Sharing Life*  
*Sharing Faith*



July 2017  
Newsletter

## ***Letter from Carolyn***

Dear Friends,

Most of you will have heard by now that Mark and I had the joy of becoming grandparents on 20 May when our daughter, Jo, gave birth to little Arianna. It has been a profound and emotional time and has made me think a lot about the miracle of life and family. She was born in Manchester two days before the dreadful terrorist attack in the city and it made me reflect on the kind of world in which she will be growing up and the legacy she will inherit.



***Arianna with Nanny and Grandpa***

I wonder what kind of legacy you want to leave for your children and grandchildren and those in our church? Does it involve just leaving them some money in your will or a functioning (and warm!) church building or does it go deeper than that? Even if we don't have much to leave materially we will still leave a legacy of some kind to the next generation after we have left this earth whether we intend to or not.

Will we leave anything that has relevance and benefit for this life and eternity? The most valuable legacy we can pass to our children, grandchildren, and other children in our lives is a spiritual legacy – the legacy of faith in Christ.

Even though each of us must make their own decision to follow Jesus, there are some things we can do to help create an atmosphere where faith can grow and thrive. When children grow up seeing the power and reality of God at work in the lives of their parents, grandparents and church family, it is not so easy for them to turn away from God in their adult lives, even if they have a rocky patch along the way!

In Psalm 78 we read the following: *“My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old - things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done. He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which He commanded our ancestors to teach their*



*children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands.”*

What can we do to leave a spiritual legacy and encourage a relationship with God in the lives of our own children and grandchildren, as well as the children and those young in the faith in our church? Here are a few suggestions:

**Look at your own life** The best way to prove to our children the value and relevance of faith in Christ is to be a living demonstration of that truth. Children learn more from watching us than they do from what we say. If our children see that our walk doesn't match our talk, behaving and speaking in one way at church but living and speaking differently at home or work, they will see through our lack of integrity and perceive that Jesus doesn't make a real difference in our lives. What does your child observe about your attitudes to others, the things you watch or read, the websites you visit, the language you use, the way you react when something goes wrong or when someone annoys you? Try to live out your faith in an authentic and relevant way. Let them see that even though you make mistakes and life gets messy that you can overcome these difficulties with God's help.

**Share God's Word** From a young age we can teach our children and grandchildren to know and love God's Word in an intentional way. Children's activities and programmes at church are wonderful but the first place a child learns about God's word is in the home with their families. Let them see you reading and studying God's word regularly, have family devotions, read Bible stories at bedtime, play worship music that comes straight from Scripture, let them see the relevance of God's word in your everyday lives and they will grow to love God's word and value its importance.

**Pray with them and share answers to prayer** Don't just turn prayer into a shopping list at bedtime but ask them what they would like God's help with and pray together about those things. When our girls were little we used to pray with them when there were difficulties or when one of us was ill and then they could always see the reality of God as He answered those prayers so they knew that He could be relied upon.

**Value the church** I know of parents whose children have heard them speaking critically about people at the church and their church leadership and then been surprised when they have grown up not wanting anything to do with the church. I have also known parents who have allowed other priorities to take the place of worship such as sports and other leisure activities and then wondered why worship is not a priority to them as they grow older and been



disappointed that their grown up children don't remain in the church. Make sure your children and grandchildren understand that the church, though far from perfect and made of all kinds of people, is the family of God and that they appreciate the importance and priority of meeting together in worship and fellowship.

**Be outward looking** Allow your children to see you being generous with your time, money, home and resources. Encourage them to value all people and to treat people with compassion, kindness and mercy just as Jesus did. Find ways of helping others and try to engage with your community as well as teaching them to have a global view of the world.

**Look to the future** Teach the children that God has a good plan for their lives and encourage them to seek God's will for their future jobs, marriage partners, homes and families. Since our girls were born we have prayed for them to find a mighty man of God to marry and are very thankful that they have both married lovely Christian men. Help them so see that the goal of life for a Christian is to walk in obedience to the Lord rather than be dragged along by the goals that the world says is important.

Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and friends: you **will** impact the next generation. What kind of legacy will you leave? God's greatest gift to us is our families. Let each of us make sure we have continued or begun a legacy of faithfulness for our children and grandchildren.

*Carolyn Lawrence*

Mark Tel. 01548-852073 Mobile 0752 779 6319 Email [revmark@live.co.uk](mailto:revmark@live.co.uk)

### ***From the Editor ...***

If you would like to include anything in the August Newsletter, please let me have the details by Monday 10 July in any of the following ways :-

- ♥ send it by email to [contact@jennyhansford.co.uk](mailto:contact@jennyhansford.co.uk)
- ♥ ring me on 01752 894634
- ♥ hand it to me at church on a Sunday
- ♥ place it in the "H" pigeonhole in the Church Concourse
- ♥ post it through my letterbox at 10 MacAndrew Walk, Ivybridge



*Jenny Hansford*



# July Worship

## **IVYBRIDGE**

July 2	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Miss Judith Walker Rev Mark Lawrence - Communion
July 9	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Mark Lawrence ENGAGE - Mr Paul Courtney
July 16	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Nick Wakely Prayer Service led by Mrs Gill Cowsill
July 23	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Mark Lawrence - Communion Mrs Carolyn Lawrence
July 30	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Mr Mike Cade Mrs Di Smart
Aug 6	10:30 am 6:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh Taizé
Aug 13	10:30 am	Mr Gary Streeter

## **BITTAFORD**

July 2	10:30 am	Mr John Pointon
July 9	2:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh - Communion
July 16	10:30 am	Mrs Di Smart
July 23	10:30 am	Mr Justice Abusah
July 30	10:30 am	Mrs Val Marriott
Aug 6	10:30 am	Rev David Youngs - Communion
Aug 13	2:30 pm	Rev Simon Leigh - Communion

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*The speakers have been taken from Circuit Plan  
and are correct to the best of the Editor's knowledge.*

## Gift Aid Scheme - regular giving

A good number of the Congregation make their regular offering via the Gift Aid Scheme. For every £1 that is given under the Scheme, 25 pence can be reclaimed from HMRC. Therefore, the tax reclaim money received is of great help to the work of IMC and I would like to thank all those of you who are able to participate in the Gift Aid Scheme.



If you have completed a Gift Aid Declaration, please can I remind you that you **must** pay Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax. You need to ensure that the relevant tax paid by you in the tax year is equal to or greater than 25% of your Gift Aid donations made to **all** charities. If the tax is less, HMRC will ask you to pay the difference.

If you are no longer a tax payer, or no longer wish to make your offering through the Gift Aid Scheme, or there has been a change in your circumstances, e.g. address, it would be appreciated if you could let me know so I can update the records I hold.

Thank you for your help and co-operation.

*Stewart Edward*

Gift Aid Co-ordinator

4 Lower Brook Park, Ivybridge

Tel - 01752 698785 Email - [stewart.edward@live.com](mailto:stewart.edward@live.com)



**Save this important date  
in your diary!**

### **A 24 Hour Prayer Event at IMC**

Starting at 10:30 am on Saturday 9 September going all day and night into the Sunday morning service on 10 September

*If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.*

2 Chronicles 7:14



# Mevagissey Male Voice Choir Charity Concert



on  
Saturday 8 July 2017  
at 7:00 for 7:30 pm start  
at

Yealmpton Community Methodist Church,  
Chapel Road, Yealmpton, PL8 2LZ

Donations will be gratefully received for  
St Luke's Hospice and Christian Aid.

For more details, please contact  
Angela Brimblecombe - Tel: 895364



**St Luke's**  
Hospice Plymouth



## Check out your Newsletter online!

Despite our best efforts, there may be times when you don't receive your newsletter before the beginning of the month, and for that we apologise.

However, the Newsletter does get put on our website at the same time as it goes to the printers, so why not check it out online at -  
[www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk)

Not only will you get to see it early, but you will see it in all its glory ... in full colour!

*Jenny Hansford*



## Mind Your Language

ព្រះជាម្ចាស់ស្រឡាញ់មនុស្សលោកខ្លាំងណាស់ ហេតុនេះហើយបានជាព្រះអង្គប្រទានព្រះបុត្រាតែមួយរបស់ព្រះអង្គមក ដើម្បីអោយអស់អ្នកដែលជឿលើព្រះបុត្រា មានជីវិតអស់កល្បជានិច្ច គឺមិនអោយគេវិនាសឡើយ។

If God called you (or when He calls you!) to take the gospel to another people group or to assist the indigenous church of that group, it would be vital for you to spend time and effort in learning their language. This would be an essential part of getting to understand their culture and being able to communicate with them in their native tongue.

What would be involved in learning the Khmer language, which in various forms is spoken by the vast majority of people in Cambodia?

**Fact:** Khmer is the second most widely spoken South-East Asian language (after Vietnamese). Unlike Vietnamese and Thai, it is not tonal, but some of the vowel sounds can be hard for Europeans to distinguish and some consonant combinations are excruciating tongue twisters.

- ◆ Khmer has 35 consonants, of which 33 are in current use.
- ◆ There are two ways of writing each consonant.
- ◆ There are 25 vowels that follow a consonant, each of which can have two sounds, and a further 14 independent vowels.
- ◆ 13 diacritics modify pronunciation.
- ◆ In written Khmer, spaces separate phrases, not words.
- ◆ As with English, there are regional variations in punctuation.

**Please pray ...**

- ◆ for expatriate Christians who have to learn Khmer, especially those who do not have a natural aptitude for language learning;
- ◆ that the Holy Spirit will bridge gaps of linguistics and understanding between those from outside Cambodia who share the gospel or teach the word of God and their Cambodian listeners;
- ◆ for the Khmer School of Language, staffed by Cambodian Christians, and its Director Ms Seng BouAddheka, which teaches the Khmer language to expatriates, particularly Christian missionaries.

**Competition:** A prize of 100 Riel will be awarded to the first person to send an accurate English translation of the sentence of Khmer at the top of this page to [info@CambComm.org.uk](mailto:info@CambComm.org.uk)

*Myers Cooper*



We would like to thank you all for your kind wishes, prayers and help over the past few months as we prepare for our new adventure.

We are off to France for a new life running three Gites (holiday cottages) and a Chambre d'Hôte (bed and breakfast) in South West France.

Here is our website [www.domainedefrance.com](http://www.domainedefrance.com) for anyone interested. We can provide accommodation for two to 15 people in the Gites and up to a further six people in the Bed and Breakfast. We would love to see you there!

Our new address is -

Domaine de France,  
Penne d'Agenais 47140,  
Lot et Garonne,  
France.  
Email. [ddfvacances@gmail.com](mailto:ddfvacances@gmail.com)



Au revoir

*Sarah and Paul Wigmore*



Churches Together in Ivybridge  
will hold a Taizé Service  
on 6 August at 6:30 pm  
at IMC.

## **TUESDAY LUNCHES**

Would you be able to spare two or three hours every four to five weeks to help us with Tuesday lunches?

You wouldn't need to cook a big meal, just be around to help make sandwiches or simple snacks and help with clearing up afterwards.

We are a friendly bunch to work with and we all join in a tasty, free lunch afterwards.

If you feel you could help, please contact Mercy Matthews by email:- [bmercy.matthews@homecall.co.uk](mailto:bmercy.matthews@homecall.co.uk) or phone Mercy on 893812.



**TUESDAY LUNCHES**

# Summer Garden Party Bittaford Church

Bouncy Castle - Face Painting - Cream Teas - Barbecue - Stalls



Alex Hart - The UK Meltones - Yealmpton Gospel Choir  
Children's Disco Fun



**Saturday 15 July**  
**2:00-6:00 pm**

**Free Entry**

**All proceeds to Bittaford Church Funds**



Methodist Women  
in Britain

World Federation  
of Methodist and  
Uniting Church Women



## World Federation Day 2017



### Gender Equality in the 21st Century

*(based on Sustainable Development Goal 5:  
Gender Equality)*

**Saturday 28 October 2017**

**10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

at

**Side Door Methodist Church**

Lacey Road, Grimsby,  
Lincolnshire DN34 5BH

Further information and booking form  
available from Carolyn

or

download from: [www.mwib.org.uk](http://www.mwib.org.uk)

telephone: 0300 030 9873

email: [communications@mwib.org.uk](mailto:communications@mwib.org.uk)

## Methodists for World Mission Conference 2-4 June 2017



Anne and I with Joan and Moira  
from Ireland

The theme of this year's conference at Swanwick was 'Moving People, Moving Stories' and focussed on the current situation with refugees and migrants around the world. Anne Browse (MWiB president) and myself attended on behalf of MWiB and hopefully this short report will give you just a flavour of what we experienced over the weekend and maybe encourage you to attend a future conference.

There were around 110 delegates staying over the weekend with some extra day visitors on the Saturday, representing churches from across the connexion and the world. This included some of the World Church Relationships team, returned mission partners and various people invited to speak on the issue of migrants and refugees. We also met two lovely ladies attending on behalf of Methodist Women in Ireland and shared some wonderful times of fellowship and laughter with them both.

There was a creative and interesting programme for the children in attendance and they shared with us some of what they had been doing in the final session as they retold the story of Mary, Joseph and Jesus becoming refugees in Egypt using shadow puppets.

On the Saturday and Sunday mornings we took part in a challenging Bible study led by Rev Dr Inderjit Bhogal who led us via recorded video teaching sessions on the theme of 'Sanctuary.' We learned something of his own story of migration and of the work of the 'City of Sanctuary' movement and discussed various questions in small groups. We were encouraged to think of how we can give sanctuary first of all to God by inviting Him into our lives, then some practical ideas on how we can offer sanctuary as individuals and as churches, and show hospitality to the stranger and the visitor amongst us.

We also heard from various people working with refugees and migrants and heard some harrowing and moving stories from Greece, Italy, Syria, Mexico and Palestine. We were also privileged to hear stories from a lovely group of young people from the Karen Community in Myanmar who are now living in Sheffield and they shared some of their songs and dancing during the Saturday evening. Anne and I had a go at the dancing but we're not sure we'll make



their dance troupe! A group from Zimbabwe also took part during the Saturday evening and led us in some exuberant and joyful singing.

During the Saturday afternoon there were about eight workshops on offer, two of them led by Anne and myself. Anne shared stories of her experiences in Germany and Greece and I based mine on a workshop I had attended in Houston on Biblical hospitality which generated some lively and interesting discussion. Other workshops were led by some of the visitors and speakers including Tim Annan, Youth President sharing stories of his trip to Mexico, Laura Cook from 'All We Can' speaking about forced migration in the Middle East and Africa, Katy Brookes-Duncan speaking about the charity she has helped to establish called 'People Not Borders' working with refugees in Greece and a group from the Living Stones of the Holy Land speaking about some of the current issues in Syria and Palestine. As part of that we heard a moving story from a man who was born in one of the Palestinian refugee camps which brought a personal touch to the workshop.

There were several stalls with information and products from various organisations and charities and a temptation to buy a variety of wonderful things. I came home with several new books and a Nepalese Yak blanket for a family member's birthday!

The conference closed on the Sunday with a service of Holy Communion and an exhortation to make sure that we reflect on what we have learned and seek God for a way in which we can help show the love of Jesus to displaced people in our communities, nation and across the world.

Aside from all the speakers and activities, I found it a wonderful opportunity to meet with others who share a global view of the church and to fellowship with brothers and sisters from around the world and learn more of their lives.

Next year's MWM weekend will be on the theme of 'Africa - Gospel and Culture' so that promises to be full of exciting stories and worship. It will be held at Swanwick from 1-3 June 2018 so if you haven't been to one of these conferences before, I would encourage you to come along and experience it along with me next year.

For more information about MWM check out -

[www.mwm.org.uk](http://www.mwm.org.uk)

Email [mwmsec@gmail.com](mailto:mwmsec@gmail.com)

Twitter [@MWM\\_charity](https://twitter.com/MWM_charity)

*Carolyn Lawrence*

(British Area Officer for WFM&UCW)



# July News

If you have anything you would like included in the Church News please let Judy Jago know at church,

Welcome to our news spot for July. If we have missed anything at all months please DO let Judy Jago or Val Marriott know.

Our very best wishes and many congratulations go to Alice Fox and Matt Ash as they get married on 29 July here at IMC. We hope the weather is kind and that you have a wonderful day filled with fantastic memories. Our prayers are for peace of mind as you tackle all those last minute jobs a day like this needs.



More best wishes to share, this time for Paul and Sarah Wigmore as they leave Ivybridge to begin the next chapter of life in France. They have a Gite in Aquitaine and would love to see anyone venturing that far (see page 9)! It sounds a very exciting and hard work project, but we know you two will make a fantastic job of it. Bon voyage and lots of love.

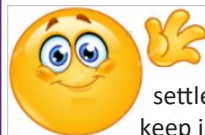


Life in the Rowe household will be busy during July -



First of all congratulations to Becca and Sam as they move to Torre Close with their beautiful puppy Kiri. We hope the move goes well and wish you lots of happiness in your new home.

Meanwhile Chris and Anna are getting married in Liverpool at much the same time, and we send our warmest wishes for a wonderful day of joy and celebration and pray all the last minute preparations go smoothly. Many congratulations to you both.



We say a sad farewell to Sally LeMarachel as she and her husband move back to Andover. Sally, it's been a joy to have you as part of our fellowship and we hope you soon settle into a new Church near your new home. We hope you will keep in touch and that all your arrangements go smoothly.

There is a run of big birthdays in July and August and we send love and many happy returns for great birthdays to Jason Archer, Sandra Morgan and Bruce Scoble. Remember age is only a number!!!





Our warmest love and congratulations to Sue and Brian Flood as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August this year and best wishes for the years to come.



Congratulations to Meg Gentle who has gained a 2:1 in English from Cardiff University - very well done Meg and our best wishes for the future and all that involves.

Keziah Stephenson and Harriet Pope have also graduated but are awaiting results - (no doubt nervously). However, Harriet has already begun her teaching career at Mayfield Special School in Torquay so no long holiday there Harriet!!



We hope it continues to go well for all our graduates.



**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Helen Skinner as she begins a new role at St Thomas' hospital in London in early July - moving over to a Prescribing Management role from her specialist Nurse role will take some settling in to but we wish you every blessing Helen as you undertake the challenge.

Congratulations to Mercy Matthews who has received a special award for her many committed years to Girl Guiding in and around Ivybridge. Mercy is a tireless worker in many areas and we send our best wishes Mercy as you continue with them all.



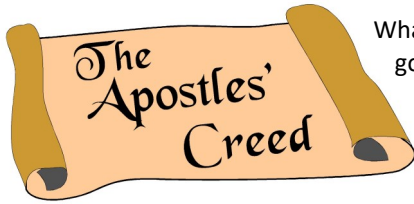
In June's newsletter prayers were mentioned for Nikolas Blackwood (aged 2). They think he may have Malignant Peripheral Nerve Sheath Tumour (MPNST) which is not nice, but he has several symptoms. Thankfully all the tests that he needs can be done at Derriford which will mean less travelling and less stress for the family. We continue to pray for Nikolas as well as the doctors and all those involved in his treatment, and his Mum Kirstie and Grandma Kathy.

Our thoughts and prayers go with Kate and Robin Duckering as they scatter Kate's Dad's ashes in Harpenden in early July. Kate's Father died very suddenly earlier in the year.



Please continue to pray for Barry, Christine and Maria and remember those of our number in Residential Care

**Line 5 -**  
**"He descended to the dead."**



What does that mean? Where do the dead go? How can Jesus descend to the dead when He said to one of the thieves on the cross in Luke 23:43, *"Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise."*

Last time we established the fact that Christ physically died on the cross. He gave up His spirit (Matthew 27:50). When He did that some supernatural stuff happened, which we also need to look at to try and piece together what is going on from other Scriptures. Read Matthew 27:50-53.

Earlier in Matthew's Gospel Jesus said something about Himself which gives us a clue as to where He went in His spirit – Read Matthew 12:39-40, *"...the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."* He descended to the lower earthly regions. This is mind blowing stuff and might be too much for some of you to accept, but it is Christian doctrine nonetheless.

On the Day of Pentecost the Apostle Peter preached to the crowds under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. During his sermon (Acts 2:22-28) he quotes Psalm 16:8-11 where it says, *"...you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead..."* What and where is this realm of the dead? In the AV it says, *"For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."*

The Hebrew word for the place of the dead is shoel, in Greek it's hades. The world of the dead - grave, hell, pit. That is where Jesus went in His spirit. His body was in the tomb, but His spirit went down into hades.

Let's look at 1 Peter 3:18-20, *"... He went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits - those who were disobedient long ago..."* After physical death the unrighteous go to a place called Hades, prior to the Judgement. Hades, is like Hell's check-in.; in the same way as paradise is Heaven's check-in. See John 5:28-29 - *"...rise to live..."* *"...rise to be condemned..."*

So why did Jesus have to descend into hades? He had to collect something that He could legally take hold of having passed through physical death. Read Revelation 1:17b-18 - *"I AM the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."*





Have you ever forgotten your keys? Humanity lost their keys (the key of life) when they sinned against God in the garden. They didn't die physically the day they rebelled against God, but they died in their spirits. They became bound to Satan by the curse of death. Read Romans 5:17-21 and 6:23. They became his slaves through his lies and trickery.

Without Christ people are still under the curse of spiritual death and will go into hades after the first death, awaiting the Day of Judgement, before the second or final death as per Revelation 22, but the 'Second Death' comes under line 8 of the Apostles' Creed so we're won't cover that now.

Back to the keys, which Christ won back after His decent to the place of the dead / sheol / hades. Jesus said something interesting to Peter after his confession regarding Him being the Christ in Matthew 16. Read Matthew 16:18-19. *"I will give you the keys of the kingdom..."* (Matthew 16:19) Keys = power and authority. Christ, after descending into the outer portals of hell and in full and total surrender to His Father's will obtained the keys of death and Hades. In other words, He has total authority of death and Hell! So that makes what Jesus is promising Peter and the Church all the more significant - *"I will give you the keys of the kingdom..."*

He is promising to pass on to us the authority which He has legally obtained! Hence the verses that follow in Matthew 16:19; *"...whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven..."* This is about the authority of Christ being passed on to the children of the Kingdom so that they can operate in the same way as He does on earth.

We use this in deliverance and healing – bind the demonic – loose the power of the Holy Spirit. All this is done in the authority of and for the glory of Jesus Christ. And this is all because: *'He descended to the dead'*.

### **Line 6 – "On the third day He rose again."**

We've just looked at where Jesus went once He'd given up His spirit. He descended to the realm of the dead. Nothing unusual up until this point. But unlike many who had gone before Him, Jesus was only a temporary visitor to Hades, and was on a mission to free mankind from the final enemy - death!

We are told in 1 Corinthians 15:26, *"The last enemy to be destroyed is death."* He literally conquered the grave and won back the keys of death and hell. He stormed the gates of death and overcame that final enemy!



So let's look very briefly at four points:-

- The challenge of the Resurrection
- The events of the Resurrection
- The power of the Resurrection
- The results of the Resurrection

### **The challenge of the Resurrection**

Satan has tried ever since to play down Christ's victory. There have always been his spokesmen over the years who have denied that the resurrection ever took place.

The Apostle Paul acknowledges this in his letter to the church in Corinth. So let's read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. *"But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that He raised Christ from the dead. But He did not raise Him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."*

There are still those who are in this category that Paul talks about. They are either wanting to completely debunk the Christian gospel or call themselves Christian, but cannot accept the reality of the supernatural!

The Resurrection of Christ is the battleground. If human or spiritual forces can deny or downgrade this event, they know they can undermine and invalidate the Christian church. The bodily resurrection of Jesus is non-negotiable. If it is false, we fall into a state of deception. We are fools to be pitied and there is no hope as Paul mentions. He gives a long list of woes -

- Our preaching is useless
- Our faith is useless
- We are false witnesses
- Our faith is futile
- We are still in our sins
- When we die we're lost
- We are to be pitied if we only have hope in this life

The enemy and his disciples hate the thought and reality of the resurrection, because it means their doom!



So the usual tactic of the enemy is to make things fuzzy and not quite tangible or to cast just enough doubt on something to make us doubt too! You will recall of the devil's words to Adam in the garden and Jesus in the wilderness - "Did God say..." "If you are the Son of God..."

So objections to the resurrection are common and to be expected because it is a hinge point of true Christian belief. The devil knows it's true, hates the fact and so creates a smoke-screen of lies. Secular humanists try to explain it away. Dead or false religion downplays it, casts doubt upon it or twists it into a complex mesh of philosophical tripe.

But what does God say? We continue with 1 Corinthians 15 and verse 20 where it tells us, *"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep."*

### **The events of the Resurrection**

Jesus prophesied that this was going to happen (Matthew 16:21). It was also previously prophesied in Old Testament – Psalm 16:8-11 and Isaiah.53:10-11.

In the New Testament there are ten post-resurrection bodily appearances of Jesus:-

- To Mary Magdalene in the garden on Resurrection Sunday in Jerusalem (Mark 16:9-11 and John 20:11-18)
- To other women on Resurrection Sunday in Jerusalem (Matthew 28:9-10)
- The two on the road to Emmaus on Resurrection Sunday (Mark 16:12-13 and Luke 24:13-32)
- To Peter on Resurrection Sunday (Luke 24:34)
- To ten disciples in the upper room the following Sunday (Luke 24:36-43 and John.20:19-25)
- To seven disciples fishing some time later (John.21:1-23)
- To eleven disciples at Galilee (Matthew 28:16-20 and Mark.16:15-18)
- To more the 500 in an unknown location some time later (1 Corinthians 15:6)
- To James in an unknown location some time later (1 Corinthians 15:7)
- To His disciples at His ascension on The Mount of Olives 40 days after His resurrection (Luke.24:44-49 and Acts 1:3-8)

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 "...according to the Scriptures..." To hold on to the truth we must hold on to the Scriptures.



### **The Power of the Resurrection**

- The power of God – Acts 2:24
- His own power from the Father – John 10:17-18
- Jesus is the Resurrection – John 11:25-26

### **The Result of the Resurrection**

- It declares His deity – Romans 1:4
- The preaching of the full Gospel - Luke 24:36-48
- It disarms rulers and authorities - Colossians 2:13-15
- It has given us power – Romans 8:11
- It enables us to be saved – Romans 10:9-10
- It has given us victory over death – Romans 6:8-11

Because He lives I can face tomorrow  
Because He lives all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future  
And life is worth the living just because He lives

**Lines 5 and 6 -**

**“He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again.”**



## **Wise and Wonderful**



We meet fortnightly in the IMC Café: see dates below.  
Meetings are on Fridays, from 2.30 until 4:00 pm  
with a charge of £1 each time

### **Summer Programme 2017**

July 7  
Cream tea at the Café on the Green, Widecombe!  
Cars leaving at time to be confirmed:  
please book your seat.

Please contact one of us for more information:  
Valerie Marriott 893614   Sara Bromage 894198  
Judy Jago 894829   Sue Pengilly 896444  
Christine and David Moulder 892858

**We are an open fellowship and all are welcome!**



## Women's Ministry at IMC July Programme



### Monday 3 July

This social evening has been postponed until after Mark and Carolyn move to Ivybridge. If anyone has any suggestions of a nice place to go for a pub meal please let Carolyn know.

### Monday 10 July at 1:30-3:00 pm

Bible Study at IMC

What is forgiveness and why is it important?

Carolyn Lawrence

Email: [markcarolyn1983@gmail.com](mailto:markcarolyn1983@gmail.com)

Tel: 01548 852073



We appreciate all of your help in collection for Christian Aid this year.

We can confirm that the total collected was -

**£4,650.00.**

Thank you.

*Sandra and Paul*



### News from 3<sup>rd</sup> Ivybridge (Methodist) Brownies

We enjoyed a Picnic in honour of Jo Cox with other Units from the area by the River Erme.

We won the Dumoulin Owl competition for creating an owl out of recycled materials! (See the picture of our owl.)



Hi Church

It's so exciting to write a little news report about what has been going on with our children and young people this past term and a half. As you all know Children and Youth work is key to the Church growing and seeing new disciples for Jesus. If you have any questions or want to grab a coffee and chat about where you can be involved please just contact me on the details at the end of this report.



### **WHAT'S NEW!!!**

For a few years now I have felt passionate about starting a weekly group for the kids that come to holiday club each year. So after October half term I managed to get a team together and we started a weekday club called "KidsFest". On the first day we had 3 children which is always quite disheartening, but slowly it has grown and God is really using it. We now get a regular 15 with 25+ on the books. Praise God! So in July we are taking the 8's-11's away to a camp called "Spree". This will be a fab opportunity to invest some time in the older young people and see them grow in their personal faith and relationship with Jesus

### **OUR CHURCH YOUTH**

You may have noticed in the past year there hasn't been as many young people aged 13's-18 in our church. Although they don't appear on a Sunday we do have 10-15 meeting every Monday at our Bible study. The majority of them worship at other churches.

### **YFC CONNECT**

Our youth team are passionate about unity across Ivybridge so we partner with YFC in the Christian Union at Ivybridge Community College. We also lead together on Thursday where we see 30-40 young people coming to the Wired Youth Groups, many of whom have been to holiday clubs in the past and are now enjoying being a part of the youth group. We also do some School Assemblies together, as well as apart, which is an amazing opportunity to speak to 100's of children that may never otherwise hear of the love of Jesus in an exciting and relevant way.

### **THE BEACH PARTY**

The Beach Party seems to grow each year with 305 wristbands sold this year. We had a wonderful evening worshipping in the middle of God's beautiful



creation. Thank you again to the fantastic team of volunteers from IMC. It is a great event to play our part in unity across Devon.

### **YEALMPTON KIDS WORK**

Each week myself and a team run a Children's Club in Yealmpton Primary School which is quite small at the moment but a really nice bunch of kids. We also run an assembly once a month

### **SOUTH BRENT KIDS WORK**

Each Wednesday I run a Youth/Kids Group for St Petrox Church. This is always well attended with passionate young people keen to know about God.

When did you meet Jesus? Was it when you were young? 80% of people meet Jesus before they are 21, so this is a very important ministry. We are always looking for volunteers to get involved in this amazing ministry of youth work. So if you would like to volunteer please contact me on 07816 910152 or email me at [phil\\_blunti4e@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phil_blunti4e@hotmail.co.uk) . You will need a DBS and safeguarding certificate to be involved with any of the above events.

Thank you.

*Phil*

Work Days are normally held on the Second Saturday of the month from 9:30 am onwards.

All help is appreciated in carrying out the many maintenance and cleaning jobs around our church building. We enjoy excellent coffee and cakes from "Wesleys" part way through the morning.



The dates of the next Work Days are -

**8 July**

**There is no Work Day in August**

**9 September**

**14 October**

**11 November**

**9 December**

# Church Contacts



## Minister:

Rev Mark Lawrence Tel: 01548-852073  
email: revmark@live.co.uk

## Senior Stewards:

Mr David Moulder Tel: 01752 892858  
Mrs Dawn Martin Tel: 01752 690742

## Room Bookings:

John and Pam Montgomery  
Tel: 01752 894083  
email: imcbookings@gmail.com

## House Group Information:

Mrs Helen Maddaford Tel: 01752 892810

## Youth Work:

Phil Blunt Tel: 07816 910152

If you have any items for the

## August Newsletter

please get them to the Editor by

**Monday 10 July**

at the latest please.

**Tel: 01752 894634**

**email: [contact@jennyhansford.co.uk](mailto:contact@jennyhansford.co.uk)**



Visit our website at  
**[www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk](http://www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk)**

If you wish to contact Tony regarding the website  
you can do so at [mrmerrit@icloud.com](mailto:mrmerrit@icloud.com)