

Happy Birthday!

Newer readers may not know about the work of Somerset Gospel Outreach and their evangelist, **Chris Gadd**. He has been helping us at Langford since around 2003, when he was serving the Lord with another Christian organisation. As the name suggests, his work is mainly in the County of Somerset but we persuaded him to venture North. He mostly engages in home visitation, though you may see him leading open air events too. Chris lives with his wife Linda in Street and has three grown-up children. He has a special birthday coming up this month.



March 2022

Number 166

Bible characters word search

A	F	G	H	B	X	L	Y	N	Amos
B	M	H	A	K	U	M	O	S	Cain
Z	K	O	P	A	U	S	A	T	David
P	J	Y	S	E	S	O	M	D	Ezra
X	B	A	A	D	Y	K	I	L	Jael
N	A	J	M	H	Y	V	C	J	James
I	M	L	U	E	A	X	A	Z	Joab
A	R	Z	E	D	S	E	H	N	Leah
C	B	E	L	H	L	T	L	A	Lot
									Micah
									Moses
									Samuel
									Saul

Verse for the month

The word of the Lord endures for ever.

1 Peter 1:25.

First Century cancel culture?

We have recently started a new series during our evening services on the first letter to the Thessalonians, which is probably one of the earliest of the New Testament writings. The background to this is found in Acts Chapter 17 where we read that Paul and Silas get run out of town by an angry mob and one of the newly converted Christians is attacked. The Roman empire at the time was awash with all kinds of ideas and philosophies and there seemed to be a freedom for anyone to spout their opinions. Yet in fact it was just like today: There were some issues which you couldn't raise without bringing down a storm on your head and among these was to claim that Jesus of Nazareth was the Christ, the Son of the living God, that salvation could be obtained only through Him, and God demanded repentance. Some things haven't changed.

In this issue

Changing and unchanging: From a guest contributor, *inside pages*.
Helping us for nearly 20 years: Happy Birthday! *Back page*.
Puzzling: Bible characters word search, *back page*.

Out and about

The very pretty village of Shipham is quite close to Langford and it has been a place for members and friends to use as a starting point or a resting place on rambles over the years. The West Mendip Way 30 miles walk passes through it and there are some splendid views from various parts of the village. Over recent months we have been conducting one of our regular visitation programmes and have been welcomed by many residents. Some of them now take the "Our Daily Bread" Bible reading notes which we distribute free each quarter. The photo shows the fine village green in the centre and the War Memorial reminds us (particularly as Easter is next month) of our Saviour's words, "Greater love has no one than this", John 15:13.



Prayer requests

Pray for those with **health issues**, including L. G., D. F., E. M. The situation on the **Ukrainian** border is still tense. Pray on! Ask God to give **courage** to those who preach the gospel. Remember those who are feeling **lonely**. Pray for those in many parts of the world who are **persecuted** for their faith. Ask God to guide our country's **rulers** (1 Timothy 2:2).

From a guest contributor

Do we see God as unchanging in the days in which we live? We see change all around us that is moving at an accelerating speed. Leaders of our nation and other nations around the world seem to thrive on their thoughts involving possibilities of making changes to so many things that affect our lives. If one really thinks about it, it is really frightening. Think about the rapid changes we've seen, just in the past few years. Philosophies, lifestyles, ideologies that sounded shocking and that we believed only represented the fringe of our civilized society, are no longer shocking at all. In fact, many of us wonder what could possibly be happening next!

We seem to be living in an age when it is difficult to be sure what is right and what is wrong.

The modern world in which we live has brought forward the secularization of society and in reality is breaking down just about any social norm or tradition. We are seeing it everywhere: culturally, politically, morally and religiously.

Much that I have said sounds harsh but it is what we hear and read from those who are concerned for their loved ones and future generations.

So here we have it. We are living in a fallen world - a changing world, but we have a God who is unchanging, for He is King, He is eternal, immortal, invisible, wise. He is Holy and Just. He is always present, all knowing, has the power to do anything. He is Sovereign and in complete control. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. He is a God of love. John 3: 16. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

So we have no need to fear - if we believe in Jesus and His eternal promises.

(Sent in by John Chaplin of Congresbury.)

For your diary

March sees another Springtime and we trust brighter days in every sense after two long years of Covid restrictions. We will want to bring our praise to God. This month in one of our evening services we will have an

opportunity to listen to a lady whose life has been transformed by Jesus. **Angela** will be sharing her testimony at **6.30 p.m. on 13th March**. The **Aroma** coffee morning is on Saturday **26th**, from **10.30**.