

Who's who at Langford Chapel

An occasional look at the people we see here

Jonathan Steeds came to us as a visiting preacher in December and some will recall that he had often been on earlier occasions. He has been in the United States for two years, studying for a Master's degree at the Dallas Theological Seminary. He shared a little with us about the course and the rather multi-national mix of his fellow students there before sharing two sermons on David and Goliath (*you can listen to that one on our website*) and David and Saul. Welcome back, Jonathan!



Bible multi-choice test

1. Complete this verse from Matthew's Gospel: "You are the _____ of the earth: a. blood b. scum c. salt d. pepper"
2. Who was converted on the road to Damascus?
a. John b. Paul c. Judas d. Mary
3. Who lived on locusts and wild honey?
a. Jonah b. Joshua c. James d. John the Baptist
4. Who was the father of Isaac?
a. Abraham b. David c. Joseph d. Gabriel
5. The line "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down" is in which book? a. Judges b. Lamentations c. Proverbs d. Psalms
6. Who was the father of the apostles James and John?
a. Daniel b. Philip c. Zacharias d. Zebedee
7. Who would "not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ?" a. Simeon b. Samuel c. Simon Peter d. Silas
8. Which one of the gospel writers was a tax collector?
a. Matthew b. Mark c. Luke d. John
9. Who betrayed Samson to the Philistines?
a. Esther b. Delilah c. Deborah d. Tamar



Welcome to the new "Link"

This newsletter has not changed a great deal in the ten and a half years since it first appeared - until now. Last year we launched an updated website and used a local scene on the home page, so it seemed a good idea to carry the theme through to this publication, together with the change in heading style. We think it gives a fresh, new look - let us know your views!

Something missing?

If you are reading this after Christmas, you might think that the absence of news about our Carol Service and other events means that we forgot to celebrate it! Well no, it's just that having a pre-Christmas **Aroma** coffee morning again means we have to go to press earlier so our visiting friends can pick up their copy.

In this issue:

Looking back - Review of the past year.
From the Pastor's study - New Year thoughts.
Who's who - the return of a not-so-old friend.

A Happy New Year to all our readers!

Looking back

The Bible told some to remember all the way that the Lord had led them (Deuteronomy 8:2), so we are doing a little reminiscing here. The year 2018 brought a mixture of joys and sorrows, encouragements and disappointments. Among the joys have been the special events such as the visit of the Male Voice choir in July and David Herring's series of subjects. A new venture for us was launching pages on Facebook and Twitter and a redesigned website. The encouragements include new worshippers and some more folk at the monthly Aroma coffee mornings. In April, we welcomed Rob Derry as a new member of the Church. On a sadder note, there were two funerals at the Chapel. Our most respected "Elder statesman" Tom Harris was taken to be with the Lord in August, a service in his memory being conducted by his friend, David Farley, and three months afterwards dear May Hunt was Called Home after several months of poor health. Then one of our *Aroma* friends, Ruth Weaver, passed from this scene. There are others who have battled illness and some are facing concerns about their loved ones. Discouragements? Well, we would like to see the Bible Study and prayer meeting better supported but some of our people live at a distance.

Rob Derry



David Herring



Tom Harris



May Hunt



Prayer requests

Remember those who have been **bereaved** who will find this time of the year particularly difficult.

Pray for those suffering from **illness** or **injury** at this time.

Ask God to bring comfort to those being **persecuted** for their faith.

Praise the Lord for those who have **joined us** in worship recently and pray that we may all be blessed by God in His service.

Pray that those who heard the **Christmas** message may be touched by the Lord and come to know Jesus as their Saviour.

Pray that those in **authority** may fear the Lord and rule wisely.

Tweet of the month

Langford Evangelical Church @Langford_Chapel

'And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.' Luke 2:5

To Mary this was confirmation of what had been told her by the angel . . .

From the Pastor's study

So once more we come to the start of another year. Do you have hopes and aspirations for 2019 or maybe fears? Perhaps there are things that you would like to change but feel unable to? Or maybe you are pretty self-confident and think that you are in control, so "No worries" as everyone keeps saying. Just suppose though that the Bible is right and that God is in control of all that happens? That can be frightening or comforting - frightening if you don't trust Him, comforting if you do. One of the first Bible verses that caught my attention when I became a Christian in 1966 was Psalm 37 verse 3, "Trust in the Lord". Simple yet maybe profoundly so. King George VI quoted these words from a poem to the nation in 1939:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand in the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East. (From "God knows", by Minnie Louise Haskins, 1875-1957.)

For your diary

Without being pedantic, it is all too easy to talk about "Special" events and forget that the life and witness of a Church goes on through the whole year, so don't forget our regular services at 11 a.m and 6.30 p.m. each

Sunday and our Bible Study and prayer meeting at 7.45 p.m. on Tuesdays - all welcome.

The first **Aroma** coffee morning of 2019 will be on Saturday 26th January, open as always from 10.30 onwards.