

Cullompton Baptist Church

Minister: Rev. Glen Graham - revglengraham@aol.com - 01884 34077

The Network

Hello and welcome to this issue of the Network.

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself
John 12:32

Lifted up was he to die.
It is finished was his cry.
Now in heaven exalted high.
Hallelujah! What a Saviour.
What was finished at Easter time?
A number of things spring to mind.

We are no longer slaves to sin, but mastered by Grace and love from our Lord and Friend, Jesus.

Death no longer has the final word. Jesus did die, he passed through death. He rose physically as a human being and lives with his Father. If we have faith in what Jesus did, so will we. The Devil no longer has rights or authority in this world. King Jesus has all power and authority. Finally Jesus gives us his Life, power and authority to work with him now, and reign with him in eternity.

So, there are many reasons to celebrate and things to ponder this Easter time. We are providing many ways to mark the Easter season.

On 3rd April, we are holding a family service.

On 10th April, I will be asking the question why did Jesus need to die.

On 14th April, we will be holding a simple communion service on zoom. Virtual doors open at 6.50pm.

Great news! The Good Friday walk of witness and all ages' service is back on the 15th April. We will gather at Tesco at 10am and proceed through town to Saint Andrew's for an 11am service.

Finally our Easter Sunday service on the 17th April at 10.30am. We look forward to seeing you.

I wish to draw your attention to our AGM which will take place after the Morning service on Sunday 8th May. All paperwork will be circulated in advance.

For the Church to run well, we desperately need a Church secretary and one other deacon at the very least. Our current team is working at beyond full capacity. Frankly burn-out is waiting around the corner.

Would you prayerfully consider who you might nominate or consider standing yourself.

I am most grateful to Marilyn, Margaret and David for all their hard work and support.

May the risen Christ fill your hearts and lives this Easter time.

In Christ,

Glen and Rowan Graham

A Caribbean adventure

I am so thankful to God that he answered my prayers both for my health and for my long awaited cruise to go ahead. My friends and I booked this special holiday for my 70th year in October 2019 and even up to a few days before were not entirely sure it would go ahead as planned. However, it did and what a wonderful experience it was. Definitely a holiday of a lifetime and prayers answered.

We visited Madeira, Terceira in the Azores and 11 Caribbean Islands and had many sea days to relax and enjoy the ship and the vast oceans. Everywhere we visited had its own charm but my best memories will be of the landscapes and the wildlife. Each Caribbean Island had its proper name and some had another that designated them as "the nature island", "the turtle island", "the pelican island", "the happy island", "the spice island" and the "island of waterfalls".

I saw beautiful sunrises and sunsets, lovely blue skies and sunshine, the awesome oceans, stunning coastlines, majestic mountains, lush rainforests as well as desert areas with cacti. I was also lucky enough to see lizards, iguanas, pelicans, turtles, flamingos, colourful fish from inside a glass submarine, and dolphins and flying fish leaping from the sea alongside our ship as we made our way from one beautiful island to another. I saw crafts and craftspeople, went on boat and catamaran trips as well as 4x4 off roading trips, tasted rum punch, swam in the ocean and relaxed on the beaches.

In stark contrast I saw the devastation on some islands caused by the tail end of a hurricane in 2016 as well as the loss of businesses due to Covid 19 and the poverty that many local people lived in. I saw a man sat outside a rickety old shack on a plastic garden chair. The shack had no door and no windows and the only furniture I could see was a television sat on the floor. There are always the haves and have nots, the rich and the poor but the contrast of it struck me more here for some reason. All of this made me feel very blessed and incredibly lucky to have a good home and to be able to be there on this trip of a lifetime.

I thank God for all his blessings.

Marilyn x

Sunday Services - 10:30 in Church

3rd April - Family Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

10th April - Sunday Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

17th April - Easter Sunday, Communion Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

24th April - Sunday Service, Gregor Thotheringham.

1st May - Sunday Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

8th May - Sunday Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

15th May - Communion Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

22nd May - Sunday Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

29th May - Sunday Service, Rev. Glen Graham.

5th June - Our Church 322nd anniversary. Special Service, Preacher, Revd. Patrick Barker, Minister of Tiverton Baptist Church.

Other dates for your diaries

Bible study group: 10th April 10.30am on Zoom and 9th May 10.30am in person, venue to be announced.

Prayer meeting: 16th April and 21st May both 9.30am on Zoom.

Deacons' meeting: 6th April 10am on Zoom.

Maundy Thursday: 14th April 7pm, Communion on Zoom.

Good Friday: 15th April 10am, Walk of witness from Tesco, followed by an all ages' Service, 11am at Saint Andrew's Church.

Church AGM: 8th May after Morning Service.

Day of activities: 4th June to mark the Platinum anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's reign. Events throughout the town, may include the Church. Short open air service on CCA fields. Arrangements to be announced.

Any contributions for the next "Network" need to be with Camille by 15th May; email at mrs.camille.harrison@gmail.com or pass them on at Church on Sunday.