

TORBAY METHODIST CIRCUIT HOLY WEEK 2025 EVENTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY, 13 APRIL

- 10.30am Fore Street, Brixham Methodist Church, Rev Verity Phillips
- 10.30am Goodrington Methodist Church, Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald
- 10.30am Central Church, Torquay, Ian Lister
- 10.30am Palace Avenue Methodist Church, Paignton, Barbara Vond
- 10.30am St Andrew's Methodist Church, Shiphay, Rev Val Price
- 10.30am Victoria Park Christian Centre, Plainmoor, Rev Jeff Short
- 6pm Southfield Christian Centre with Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Circuit Service)

MONDAY 14–WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL Meditation, Music & Reflections

- 10-10.30am Goodrington Methodist Church, Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 17 APRIL

- 10am Goodrington Methodist Church, Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Foot Washing)
- 7pm Central Church, Torquay with Rev Jeff Short
- 7.30pm Fore Street, Brixham, Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Holy Communion Service)

GOOD FRIDAY, 18 APRIL

- 9am Goodrington Church with Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am Fore Street, Brixham with Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Meditative Service)
- 10.30am Central Church, Torquay with Rev Alan Poole
- 10.30am Palace Avenue, Paignton with Rev Jeff Short
- 10.30am Victoria Park Christian Centre, Plainmoor with Rev Val Price

EASTER SUNDAY, 20 APRIL

- 8am Fore Street, Brixham with Rev Jeff Short (*Holy Communion Service)
- 8am Goodrington Church, Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am Central Church, Torquay with Rev Jeff Short (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am Palace Avenue Church, Paignton, Rev Peter Williamson (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am St Andrew's Methodist Church with Rev Alan Poole (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am Victoria Park Christian Centre with Rev Val Price (*Holy Communion Service)
- 10.30am Fore Street, Brixham Methodist Church with Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald
- 10.30am Goodrington Methodist Church with Rev Jerry Cook
- 6pm Southfield Christian Centre, Paignton with Rev Jeff Short (*Circuit Service)

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK!

All enquiries please through The Torbay Methodist Circuit Office
Goodrington Methodist Church, Grange Road, Paignton, TQ4 7JT
Tel: 01803 846020 or Email: office@torbaymethodistcircuit.org

TELL ME:
WHAT CAME FIRST
EASTER OR THE EGG?

Crucifixion
or daffodils?
Three days in a tomb
or four days
in Paris?
(returning
Bank Holiday Monday).

When is a door
not a door?
When it is rolled away.
When is a body
not a body?
When it is a risen.

Question.
Why was it the Saviour rode
on the cross?
Answer.
To get us
to the other side.

Behold I stand.
Behold I stand and what?
Behold I stand at the door

knock knock.

Steve Turner



CONNECTED

Newsletter of the Torbay Methodist Circuit—Issue 36 Easter 2025

“Many parts form one body” (1 Cor. 12:12)

The Methodist Church

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Here is an extract from Lewis Carroll’s classic work

“*Alice in Wonderland*”

As part of her conversation with The Cheshire Cat....

Alice: Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?

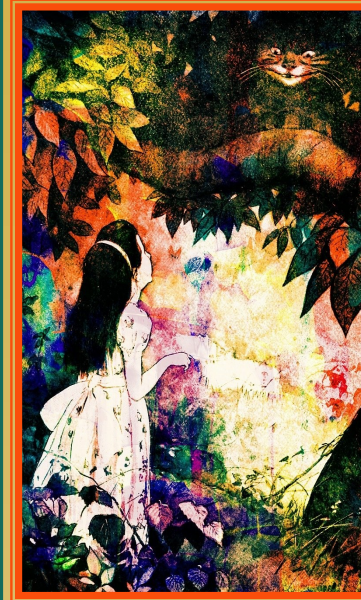
The Cheshire Cat: That depends a good deal on where you want to get to.

Alice: I don't much care where.

The Cheshire Cat: Then it doesn't much matter which way you go.

Alice: ...So long as I get somewhere.

The Cheshire Cat: Oh, you're sure to do that, if only you walk long enough.



PLEASE SHARE ME
WITH A FRIEND
OR TAKE AN
EXTRA COPY
& PASS ME ON!

I am sure that I have quoted this before in a different context, but it says so much about how we can appear quite committed to moving on without any idea of where we are heading. The header to this article asked, “Where do we go from here?” It could have been a question on the lips of the disciples on Good Friday, or Easter Day, or witnessing Chrit’s Ascension back into heaven, or pretty much any of the intervening days between these activities. Perhaps it is a question that should be on the lips of today’s disciples who gather in the Methodist Churches around Torbay. It should be considered and answered in the light of the most important event in history the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The resurrection directs us to question what happens when we die? Where do we go from here? While we can take the utmost comfort in our Lord’s words to the dying thief on the cross near to His, “This day you will be with me in paradise” we might also consider that the Risen Lord will one day return. On that day he foretold that He will say to some “I never knew you” based on their decisions and lifestyle here and now.

If how we live presently has an effect on everybody’s eternal future then the original question “Where do we go from here?” becomes relevant in how we plan for the rest of our lives as individuals and as churches. A quote from the German Theologian Wolfhart Pannenberg insists that resurrection must lead to reaction.

“if you believe it happened, you have to change the way you live.”

If we want to arrive at the correct destination then we cannot have the *Alice in Wonderland* mentality that we don’t much care and it doesn’t much matter which way we go. We must decisively choose to invite Christ into our lives and ask Him for directions. The disciples would find the answer to this question in a commission to go and make disciples as they went. That was the “what” to do next, the “how to do it” came at Pentecost when God empowered His fledgling disciples with Holy Spirit energy and abilities. For us we can view the Resurrection and Pentecost as Christian history or experience them as present reality – you choose.

May the Risen Lord guide you in all things at all times. Shalom,

Rev Jeff Short

ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS
‘Characters around the Crucifixion’
with Rev Jeff Short
VICTORIA PARK CHRISTIAN CENTRE
AT PLAINMOOR
Mondays at 11.30am (until 14 April)
followed by a snack lunch



MILESTONES TO CALVARY
With Rev Val Price
CENTRAL CHURCH, TORQUAY
Wednesdays at 11.30am
(until 16 April)
Refreshments served
from 10am

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send your good news stories of worship, fellowship,
mission & evangelism to The Circuit Office



Torbay Methodist Circuit Office
Telephone: 01803 846020
Email: office@torbaymethodistcircuit.org

Office Hours: Tuesday–Friday 9am–1pm
Visitors by appointment only please
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RESURRECTION QUOTES

There is more evidence that Jesus rose from the dead than there is that Julius Caesar ever lived or that Alexander the Great died at the age of thirty-three.

Billy Graham

We live and die; Christ died and lived!

John Stott

A lost sheep is, for all practical purposes a dead sheep. It is the admission that we are dead in our sins - that we have no power of ourselves either to save ourselves or to convince anyone else that we are worth saving. It is the recognition that our whole life is out of our hands and that if we ever live again, our life will be entirely the gift of some gracious shepherd. God finds us the desert of death (not in the garden of improvement) and in the power of Jesus' resurrection, he puts us on his shoulders rejoicing and brings us home.

Robert Farrar Capon

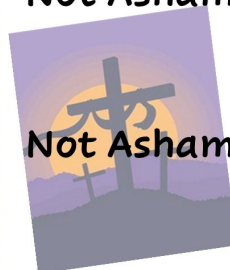
Without Pentecost the Christ-event - the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus - remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now.

Henri Nouwen

TORBAY TUESDAYS TOGETHER EVERY TUESDAY, 7.30-9PM CENTRALITY OF THE CROSS

1 APRIL

Not Ashamed of The Good News
LUKE



8 APRIL

Not Ashamed of The Good News
PAUL

15 APRIL

Not Ashamed of The Good News
MATTHEW

Please Note there will be no meeting on 22 April

29 APRIL

2b1 Musical Praise Evening

Please come & join us with friends from different churches

GOODRINGTON METHODIST CHURCH
Grange Road, Goodrington, Paignton, TQ4 7JT

Let's begin with three quotations:

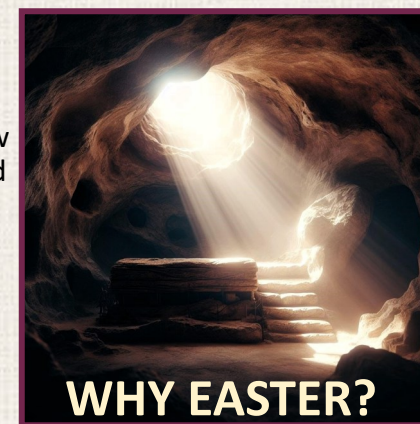
"The Cross is at the centre of the historic, biblical faith: Evangelical Christians believe that in and through Christ Crucified, God substituted himself for us and bore our sins, dying in our place the death we deserved to die, in order that we might be restored to his favour and adopted in his family"
John Stott The Cross of Christ

"How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only son, to make a wretch is treasure. How great the pain of searing loss - the Father turns his face away, as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory." *Stuart Townend*

"For what I received I passed onto you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."
St Paul 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Why Easter?

As we wander through Lent towards Easter, I wonder what comes to mind for you. Does the wonder of what Easter means warm your heart? Perhaps, I might invite you to re-read the quotations and to take more than a moment to ponder them. Now dwell with this thought from the liturgy for Holy Communion: "Christ died that we might live, and lives that we might never die."



WHY EASTER?

Perhaps you might risk letting God in and to let Him stir in you a thought or two. Perhaps try something impossible, try to forget you know the story and re-encounter it for the very first time. Give it a go. Stop for a moment and marvel at the amazing and

astonishing love God has for us; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Take the time to worship with a thankful heart. I close by offering a way forwards this Easter. In the past I have been involved in a project called Find One (F1nd). The idea is simple. We don't try to tell everyone about Jesus. Instead, we Find One. How about we each invite one person, or one couple, or one family to join us on Easter Sunday in Church. There is the chance they might meet the Risen

Jesus. And, if you need to bribe them to come, offer to provide Sunday Lunch for them! St Paul wrote in Philippians 1:15-18 that it doesn't matter that folk might share the Good News of Jesus for the wrong reasons, but simply that the Good News is being shared. Go on, risk it - Find One for Easter.

Why Easter?

Simple really. Easter is about our being loved to the uttermost. Surely that is worth sharing. Have a wonderful Easter, meet the Risen Lord.

Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald

CYCLE TORBAY

SAFER ROUTES CYCLE SESSIONS



To build confidence in cycling, CYCLE TORBAY are offering FREE cycling sessions for anyone looking to grow their cycling confidence and develop their riding skills. Aimed at intermediate riders, each 2-hour session is facilitated by a Qualified Cycling Instructor, and offers opportunities for riders to learn how to use safe and appropriate road positioning, increased confidence for riding on roads and how to approach and manoeuvre through various types of road junctions.

The overall aim of each session is to enable riders to improve on-road confidence, including navigating amongst traffic and finding safer routes.

Participants must be aged 18+, be able to ride, have a roadworthy bicycle, a helmet and suitable clothing for the weather conditions.

Sessions will start at Broadsands Car Park (TQ4 6HX) and run every Thursday morning from 10am to 12noon during term-time from the 6th March through to the 25th September 2025.

To book a *space please contact Jonathan Oliverio
Email: info@cyclertorbay.co.uk Call: 07980 111004
(*max of 3 riders per session)
For more info, please visit: www.cyclertorbay.co.uk

RESURRECTION QUOTES

The evidence for Jesus' resurrection is so strong that nobody would question it except for two things:

First, it is a very unusual event.
And second, if you believe it happened, you have to change the way you live.

Wolfhart Pannenberg

The message of Easter is that God's new world has been unveiled in Jesus Christ and that you're now invited to belong to it.

N. T. Wright

I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible.

Charles Colson

It has never at any time been possible to fit the resurrection of Jesus into any world view except a world view of which it is the basis.

Lesslie Newbigin

The resurrection of Jesus is rooted in history, grounded in scripture and confirmed in experience.

Nicky Gumbel

The ~Series 2~ CHOSEN

Eight episodes over eight weeks with chance to chat over refreshments

FREE ADMISSION. Everyone welcome!

Palace Avenue Methodist Church Hall
Thursdays at 7.30pm
from 20th February to 10th April 2025

Missed Series 1? No problem!
It won't take long to get to know the characters and if you wish, you can watch Series 1 online at thechosen.tv/watch

CALLING ALL FRIENDS & CHURCH MEMBERS

We are looking to appoint
A New CIRCUIT TREASURER and
A New CIRCUIT PROPERTY SECRETARY
Do you know anyone who may be interested?!!
Please contact The Circuit Office for more details

THE SUPER'S EASTER QUIZ

The answers are all
ITALIAN CITIES
(in order of population!)



1. Wander around more (4)
2. A Nightingale (8)
3. Animal got mixed up and lost a letter (5)
4. In part have nice memories of the city (6)
5. Wear a long boa around the place (7)
6. Where planes turn (6)
7. City shrouded with mystery (5)
8. Friend...speaks hesitatingly before nothing (7)
9. Where two gents might meet and play (6)
10.And ham it up! (5)
11. Attempts to say 'and' in French but backwards (7)
12. Sounds newer, sort of place to get balsamic vinegar (6)
13. Lean back and take a sip (4)
14. Put trendy apartment before United Artists initially (5)
15. Miss Miller perhaps is Ena it turns out (5)

ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE:

ATLEE, BALDWIN, BLAIR, BROWN, CALLAGHAN, CAMERON, CHURCHILL, HEATH, JOHNSON, MAY, STARMER, SUNAK, THATCHER, TRUSS, WILSON