

GUIDES' SERVICE

On Sunday 11th June we welcomed the local Guides to our united all-age service. During the service they told us about their planned trip to Sri Lanka in 2018. The morning's collection was donated to help the costs of their trip.



The Guides explain their trip

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

If ever a great nation was on the point of supreme and final disaster, and yet was saved and reinstated it was ourselves...it does not require an exceptionally religious mind to detect in all this the Hand of God. —Dr H. A. Wilson, Bishop of Chelmsford (1940).

Revival means the work of God restoring to a church, in a manner out of the ordinary, those standards which the New Testament set forth as being entirely ordinary. —J I Packer.

Prayer is a mighty instrument, not for getting man's will done in heaven, but God's will done on earth. —Robert Law.

A PRAYER

Lord, forgive us that we so often forget those who fought to defend the freedoms and way of life we enjoy, and also that we forget Your goodness to us as a nation. We pray that You will send a true revival of Christian faith, and enable Your Church to stand boldly for Your truth, come what may. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



SMILE

A woman answered the doorbell to find a man standing on her porch. He said, "I'm terribly sorry. I just ran over your cat and I'd like to replace it for you." The woman replied, "Well that's all right with me, but are you any good at catching mice?"

A man in hospital for an MRI Scan was put into the machine by an attractive, young technician. Sometime later, when the examination was over, he was helped out by a far older woman. He asked, "How long was I in there for?"

A husband and wife are in church. The preacher notices that the husband has fallen asleep

SIGNS OF THE TIMES Genuine church signs

**Prayer - wireless access to God
with no roaming fee**

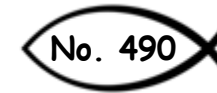
Revival cancelled due to death

**Sausage supper. Come and eat
Pastor Thomas Ressler**

**God wants spiritual fruits, not
religious nuts**

and says to the wife, "Please wake your husband up!" The wife answers, "You wake him up — you're the one who sent him to sleep!"

West Camel Methodist



**AUGUST-
SEPTEMBER
2017**

MESSENGER

**Our services are
now held at
All Saints Church**



REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

Sunday: 2nd–5th Sundays 6pm. Evening worship.
1st Sunday 4.30pm. "Tea-Time" at the Davis Hall.

Wednesday: 7.30pm Bible study (various venues). First in month, united study at the Davis Hall.

MINISTER: Rev. Craig Manley, Broadclose,
Station Road, Ansford, Castle Cary.
(Tel. 01963 351598)

STEWARD: Mrs Elizabeth Chapman, Mead Farm,
Downhead. (Tel. 01935 850838)

**WORSHIP
CO-ORDINATOR:** Mr Geoff Chapman, Mead Farm,
Downhead. (Tel. 01935 850838)

EDITOR: Mr Geoff Chapman.

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our
God, for he will freely pardon. (Isaiah 55: 6-7)

EDITORIAL

THE DUNKIRK MIRACLE

The new block-buster movie *Dunkirk* tells the story of the 1940 rescue of nearly 400,000 Allied soldiers who were trapped on the French Channel coast, facing what appeared to be certain annihilation or capture by the advancing German army. An appeal went out for boats



large and small to cross the Channel to help evacuate the trapped army, and some 800 vessels answered the call. King George VI (left) called for a National Day of Prayer, and on Sunday May 26th multitudes of people flocked to churches in response, and queues formed outside of cathedrals — a fact not mentioned in the film.

Three factors were important in the success of the evacuation, which many regard as miraculous. Hitler ordered the German army to halt its advance — much to the frustration of his generals, a storm grounded the Luftwaffe, and the subsequent calm sea enabled the flotilla of boats to reach the beach. The stranded troops were saved, to fight another day. After the war Winston Churchill acknowledged the miracle. He said, “I shall never understand why the German Army did not finish the British Army at Dunkirk.”



Troops being rescued at Dunkirk

Today, our nation has largely forgotten God and His past goodness to us. Yet we are facing an enemy even more subtle — secularism — which is threatening to undermine the Bible-based values of freedom, morality and justice which those brave forces fought to protect. For example, the traditional view of marriage is being attacked and undermined, and people are being encouraged to believe they can change their gender at a whim. Those who resist this onslaught face increasing opposition. A Government minister has urged the Church to “keep up with the modern world”, and even some within the Church are starting to “wobble.” However, in the New Testament Christians are urged: “Do not conform to the pattern of this world.” (*Romans 12: 2*). When facing opposition, the first apostles responded, “We must obey God rather than men.” (*Acts 5: 29*). Jesus never promised His followers popularity, and the Church must continue to “speak the truth in love”, however counter-cultural this may appear to be.

Recently Canon J John wrote: “The events of Dunkirk might make us want to reconsider the elimination of God as an actor from history and politics. On a more practical level, looking at the challenges facing the British nation, the idea of praying to God for deliverance seems to be something well worth encouraging. Indeed I think Dunkirk stands as an extraordinary encouragement to pray in faith. However great our problems, God is greater than them all.” Only a revival of Christian faith and a return to God can save us. We need prophetic voices to call us to pray that God will have mercy on our nation as He did in 1940.

A prayer of Habakkuk: Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy. (*Habakkuk 3: 1-2*)

SUNDAY SERVICES

August	6th	4.30pm	‘Tea-Time’ at the Church
“	13th	<u>9.30am</u> 6pm	United All-age Service Mr Peter Trenchard of Street
“	20th	6pm	Mr Geoff Chapman
“	27th	6pm	Rev Roly Simms of Wells (H.C.)
Sept.	3rd	4.30pm	‘Tea-Time’ at the Davis Hall
“	10th	11am	United All-age Service No evening service
“	17th	6pm	Rev Craig Manley (H.C.)
“	24th	6pm	Rev John Davies of Queen Camel

(H.C.= Holy Communion.)

ALL SAINTS CHURCH FETE

Bank Holiday Monday August 28th 2pm

In and around the Church. (if wet, in the Davis Hall)

Gillingham Town Band : various stalls : refreshments

Children’s activities : face painting, etc..

Admission £1 : children free.

A PEEP INTO THE PAST

From the *Western Gazette*
50 years ago

WEST CAMEL:

At the Methodist Church recently, the younger members were joined by their Somerton friends after the evening service for a quiz, followed by refreshments. On this occasion a party of young people from Newcastle was welcomed.
(8th September 1967)

Harvest thanksgiving services were held at the Methodist Church at the week-end. On Sunday the preachers were Mr Williams of Yeovil, and the Rev A R Burch of Somerton. On Monday there was a meeting

conducted by Mr Burch, followed by a sale of gifts, and refreshments. Gifts were auctioned by Mr R Case and Mr A Windsor. The proceeds were in aid of church funds. (15th September 1967)

The first of this winter’s monthly meetings in aid of women’s missionary work overseas was held at the Methodist Church on Friday. The Rev. Roy Harvey of Yeovil conducted the meeting, and supper followed in the schoolroom.
(5th October 1967)