



***We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.***  
*(1 Cor 1: 23-24, NRSV)*

Kindle  
 The newsletter of the Romford United Reformed Churches  
 April 2018

**Dear Friends, HAPPY EASTER!**

In my planning for Holy Week and Easter, I can't help thinking of Easter Sunday coinciding with April Fools Day this year. What is your best memory of an April Fools prank?

Mine is from my teenage years and actually happened in church: During the notices, it was announced that the church needed to cut its costs to save money for some larger redecoration projects. For the year ahead, it had been decided to leave the heating turned off in church. Instead, people could bring their hot water bottles along to worship! Naturally, one good soul appeared in church the following Sunday, dutifully carrying her hot water bottle. (This was probably one of those moments when the minister decided to stop including pranks in his notices on April Fools Days)

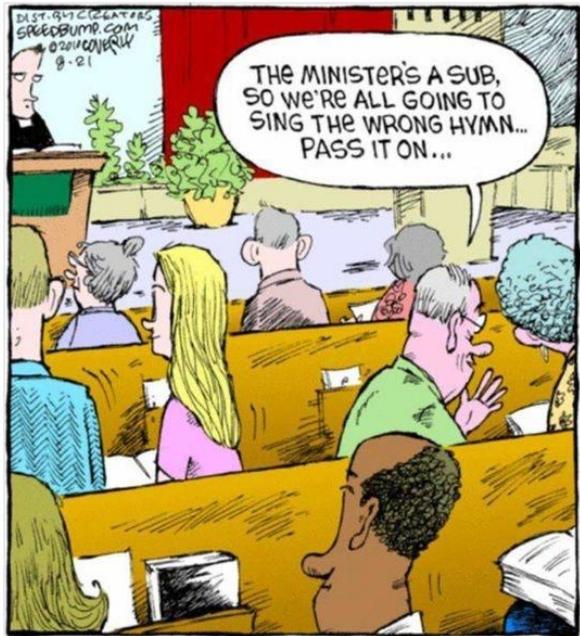


Image from: [.co.uk/pin/441212094718960332/](http://.co.uk/pin/441212094718960332/)  
 At Easter, church members and friends will once again be celebrating the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ as the central message of our Christian faith. While many people in our world focus primarily on chocolate eggs, baby animals and flowers this Easter, we have a very different story to remember and to share: the Good News of God's love, revealed in Christ. The message of the cross seems foolish to many who see only the wisdom of this world. An accused criminal serving his death sentence as a political prisoner posing a threat to national security - surely many would support this kind of punishment!  
*"But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, ... so that no one might boast in the presence of God."* (1 Cor 1: 27-29, NRSV).



**Western Road**  
 15<sup>th</sup> April  
 Whitechapel Clothing Collection. Please bring your clothes to church on the day



6.00. – 8.00 p.m.  
 Youth Group

21<sup>st</sup> April  
**QUIZ NIGHT**  
 Quiz Night  
 7.00 p.m.  
 £6 including ploughman's supper.  
 See Graham Cull for details.

**Heaton Way**  
 8<sup>th</sup> April Jill & Fiona  
 15<sup>th</sup> Trevor Cottrell  
 22<sup>nd</sup> RGC & Trinovante  
 29<sup>th</sup> Margaret Lamptey & Pat Jones

**Minister**  
 Rev'd Dorothee Búırma  
 01708 228489  
 RevdDorothee@t-online.de

**Secretary Western Road**  
 Gill Shepherd  
 Gillianshepherd2003@yahoo.co.uk

**Secretary Heaton Way**  
 Louise Manning  
 01708 344832  
 e.manning@ntlworld.com

**Kindle**  
 robinmorrison21@outlook.com

God, in Jesus, challenged the rulers of the world and their laws. Surely only a fool would annoy the religious authorities as much as Jesus did after entering into Jerusalem (and the Gospel stories of the Passion narrative from Palm Sunday on are worth re-reading on our journey towards Easter!) Surely he couldn't expect there to be no consequences of his actions and words.

However, not all was finished on the day of Jesus' crucifixion. The foolishness of Jesus' selfless, loving, rebellious death became an example of God's grace for us. As Creation itself groaned in agony at his death, God's wisdom was revealed - to the most unlikely people of the time: the Romans, the women. Love replaced evil deeds and thoughts, and the risen Christ became a beacon of hope to the people.

This Easter, let us share the Good News by sharing God's love selflessly, abundantly, and unconditionally with the people around us. God promises new life!

*"Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Cor 5: 17)*

May God bless your Eastertide!  
Your minister *Dorothee*

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In the September 2017 Kindle we printed the following

This was in the church magazine in my home church in Belfast thought you might like to try it. One book is very hard to find but a King James version may help.

Can you find the  
16 books of the Bible?

"I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible merely by fluke; it kept people looking so hard for facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalised. But now the truth finally struck home to various numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a fascination few moments for you! Yes, there will be some really difficult ones to spot; others may require judges to help them. I quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them. There will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea, so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are 16 names of the Bible hidden in this paragraph. One preacher found 15 books in 20 minutes.....but it took him 3 weeks to find the 16<sup>th</sup>!!!!"

Christine Grant

## Answers

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Christine Grant

In the King James version of the bible the book of Ecclesiastes is also called the Preacher!

## Answers

Mark  
Luke  
Kings  
Acts  
Revelations  
James  
Ruth  
Numbers  
Job  
Esther  
Judges  
Titus  
Lamentations  
Hebrews  
Peter  
Ecclesiastes – Preacher