

Celebration of the Light

On an evening usually dedicated to Halloween, trick or treat and scary pumpkins, 40 plus Christians sang praises to God, celebrating The Light. The event took place on October 31st at Deer Park in Tenby, and was attended by people from across Pembrokeshire, Neath, Ystradgynlais and holiday makers from Staffordshire Moorlands.

The evening was opened by Billy Evans, who said:

"We meet tonight for an alternative celebration to Halloween. Rather than focusing on the darkness that weighs us down in our world, we want to celebrate Jesus who sets us free from the darkness, who we also know as 'The Light of the World'"

Keith Evans, from Neath, Kevin Adams, Sal Lloyd and Sue Lorden, led the lively worship and there was a real party atmosphere, with children playing instruments.

The evening was not pumpkin free, as Billy Evans used a pumpkin in a short talk. He demonstrated using the pumpkin and other visual aids, that God created the earth and the people. He showed that the darkness entered our world when the deceiver convinced Adam and Eve to disobey God and the darkness then separated people from God. The pulp in the middle of the pumpkin was an example of the wrong things in our hearts.

Billy showed, with a new pumpkin, that God had a plan to overcome the darkness by visiting our earth himself in the form of his son, Jesus. Jesus lived a life of perfect love, represented by a heart shape cut into the pumpkin. A cross shape cut into the pumpkin was a symbol showing that Jesus was willing to sacrifice himself on the cross to pay the price for the wrong things that we do. Billy then turned on a light inside the pumpkin to show that Jesus overcame the power of darkness with his light.

'God created a perfect world which has been spoiled by darkness. Our only hope is found in Jesus, the light of the world. Jesus' love for all people is demonstrated by his perfect life and death on the cross; Jesus' resurrection was also a victory for light over darkness' said Billy 'If we follow the light we can be set free from the darkness, not only that, Jesus can turn our messed up lives into seeds of hope for our broken world.'

Pauline Evans led a session of children's songs with lots of actions and dancing. Keith led a time of prayer and songs of praise continued until late in the evening, people also shared refreshments and talked together.

Thanks were expressed to all who made the evening such a blessing, including and to The Tenby Observer and Hesed Christian Fellowship for advertising the event.



