
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

April 2018 Volume 53. No. 3.

EASTER GREETINGS
To all our readers



Minister's Letter

Spring is here?

As I sit here in my study, the last vestiges of the 2nd lot of snow this year is just melting from the ground. I can't help but think that the earth is just about to burst into life. The sun that shines this morning is encouraging the buds to develop, and it might be that in the week between when this piece is written and when you read it, Spring will really be here full of colour and life.

At the beginning of this month we will be celebrating the account of the resurrection, proclaiming the Risen Christ, the central theme of our Gospels. Each of the gospel writers have brought us to this point by a variety of routes, yet here they all are, at cross and the empty tomb. Of these things they are both untied and certain. Jesus died and is Risen. He has come to bring new life, to bring a new way, to bring hope and light into the world. Here at Easter we see the reality of the love of God in this message.

The Gospel reading from the Lectionary on the week before Palm Sunday start with the words:

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." (John 12: 20 – 21)

This challenged me then and challenges me still. How do we show the good news of Jesus to those who come asking this question today? How will we enable others to 'see Jesus' through our Easter activities and beyond? Are we ready for the sort of new growth that might be the result of answering these questions?

My wish for us all is that as I write this message I could also say that our churches are set for Springtime, that they are just about to burst into life because of the good news of Easter.

Steve



Deaths Mr Frank Kerrison peacefully in Weston Hospital

CALENDAR

MARCH

Sat 24th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sun 25th	3.00pm		Palm Sunday - Crosses on the Knoll followed by
Sun 25th	4.00pm		Palm Sunday - Service at St Mary's East Brent
Tue 27th	2.30pm	E/B	Link Villages Fellowship - Holy Week devotions – Rev. Marion Hance
Tue 27th	7.30pm		Jeff Lucas evening at Berrow Church. See – Feb LINK
Thu 29 th	7.00pm	B/H	Maundy Thursday Service at Burnham
Fri 30th	10.30am		Good Friday Service at Burnham
Fri 30th	12.00nn		Good Friday Walk of Witness from Catholic Church To St Andrews
Fri 30th	7.00pm		Good Friday Service at West Huntspill Methodist
Sat 31st	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning

APRIL

Sun 1st			EASTER SUNDAY
	6.00am		Sunrise Service on Brean Down & Brean Beach
Wed 4th		B/H	Wednesday Group - Silly Games Evening
Sat 7th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Fund Raising Coffee Morning by Stewards
Sat 7th	4.00 - 6.00pm		Messy Church at Burnham
Tue 10th	2.30pm	E/B	Link Villages Fellowship - Malcolm & Heather Gale The New Room, Bristol
Sat 14th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sun 15th	3.00pm		Christian Aid Service at St John's Highbridge see page 9
Fri 20th	10.00 - 12.00	W/H	Coffee Morning at West Huntspill see page 9
Fri 20th	evening	W/H	Dave Mournian travelling alone through North and South America see page.9
Sat 21st	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning
Sun 22nd			LAST DAY FOR THE MAY 2018 LINK
Tue 24th	2.30pm	E/B	Link Villages Fellowship - Valerie Sparks - 'A Toy Breed at Crufts'
Wed 25th	7.00pm	B/H	BURNHAM Then & Now - a Photo Shown by John Strickland in Burnham Methodist Church see page 4
Sat 28th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sun 29th	4.00pm	BR	Easter Offering service at Brean

MAY

Wed 2nd		B/H	Wednesday Group - Speaker meeting TBA
Sat 5th	10.00 - 1.00	B/H	Spring Fair at Burnham
Sat 12th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H	Shoppers Coffee Morning
Tue 13th	2.30pm	E/B	Link Villages Fellowship - Air Ambulance (Donations)

**B/H Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll,
E/B East Brent, W/H West Huntspill.**

Photo Show
BURNHAM
Then & Now

By John

Strickland
Methodist

Ticket £5.00
During the interval
Tea/Coffee, Cakes
& Biscuits
will be available

~~~~~  
Spring Fair

Saturday 5th May

10.00 —

1.00

# Burnham Methodist Church

Variety of Stalls

Light Lunches

Tea/Coffee

## **Easter offering**

This year the circuit Easter Offering service will take place at Brean at 4pm on Sunday April 29th, to be followed by a cup of tea and cake.

The theme this year is "Seek peace and pursue it". This was inspired by the fact that this year is the centenary of the end of World War 1, yet still today we have to strive to seek peace and pursue it.

As the notes accompanying the service state:-

"This act of worship shares stories from some of our mission partners; people called by God and sent to be part of local communities, using their gifts and talents to share God's love. They help to remind us that God's one mission is both local and global.

This service is a gift from the Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) to the whole church; an act of worship, and also an opportunity to hear stories and respond both with money and with our lives, as we are challenged to be people of peace. Each year a different woman takes up the task and honour of being the lead writer. The 2018 service has been written mainly by Rachel Collins, the British Helen Kim Memorial Scholar (2011-2016) and a local preacher in the Ashton-Under-Lyne circuit."

All are invited to join in this service to celebrate the work of the World Church.

And a note of explanation. MWiB is part of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women. This covers Methodist Women's organisations world-wide, and has a major conference every five years. One of its founders was Helen Kim from Korea who had the initial vision of women working together to promote peace and better conditions for the whole world.

To commemorate her vision, every five years two Helen Kim scholars are selected from each of the nine areas into which countries round the world are grouped by the World Federation. These are women aged between 18 -30 with Christian commitment who show leadership potential. The scholarship is given to develop this potential within the Christian church.

Joyce Pipet



# BURNHAM.

[www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk)

## STEWARDS COLUMN

Well, what a start we had to spring this year, snow, sleet and blizzards, with people stranded at home, on the roads and generally anywhere. There was lots of news coverage, from the army moving lorries, to farmers driving nurses and carers to work and volunteers taking hot drinks and food to the vulnerable. It was a time when we phoned friends and neighbours to guarantee they were ok – a proper team and community spirit. Let's not forget, this is something we can do everyday even if the weather is fine.

Spring has arrived, with the snow melted, the daffodils are flowering and the lambs are back in the fields, so much to be thankful for.

With Easter upon us, we have time to reflect on the journey Jesus made and to think about which direction we would like to see our churches heading. We have recently welcomed two new members and wish them well as they travel with us. We are all able to offer something, however small you may think it seems. Come and talk to us, bring your ideas and take part in our 'going forward' – remember the saying 'many hands make light work'.

Unfortunately due to the weather our March Messy Church had to be cancelled, but don't forget, the first Saturday of every month, 4pm until 6pm come and join us, a time of fun for all the family. The next Messy Church is on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

Come and join us for our Sunday morning service, Sunday club for the youngsters, and don't forget our evening service, a time for reflection and discussion.

We have so many things happening, coffee mornings, lunches, spring fair, tea and chat, a quiz and beetle drive are just some. Please check the notices, look out for future events and pass this onto others, there really is something for everyone.

Today is the last day for this month's link column and just as I said spring has arrived, the snow is starting to fall; you really never know what will happen next!

Marian Kingsbury

Steward.

# BREAN

[www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org](http://www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org)

At our quarterly preachers' meetings we have been using the time after formal business has been completed, to give an account of our preaching journey. In December it was my turn but two days before the day of the meeting my computer went down and my notes, then only half complete, were lost and I couldn't retrieve them at the time. Finally I scrambled together a few manual headings but I felt the result was somewhat less than satisfactory. Even so, I had a number of preachers (including one who wasn't there but had heard about it) encouraging me to write it down. Judy has also said that I ought to do so.

I was reminded of this when I recently saw a video of a lecture given last year by a minister of the United Church of Canada. She said that we all ought to write down a legacy for our next generation. She was talking both to us as individuals and to us as community (in this case the church).

I wonder what, as the community of the church, we would say. Would it be, we tried but nothing happened, or well there seemed no alternative but to let things drift, or, well we hoped that God would intervene in His own way?

So, at a time when, this month, we have a Circuit Review meeting open to us all, I wonder whether the theme should not be so much where do we go from here, but rather what will be the heritage that we leave for the next generation? When we look back at what has been preserved for us it asks the question how will the future judge us. It concentrates the mind somewhat.

But there's not much you can do about the weather. Two of the first three Sundays in March have been affected by snow. On the first week our service had been cancelled by the Friday; to add to the poor conditions that met us on Friday morning, the promise was for even worse to come. And on the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning broke with an inch or two of snow, but as we were due for a joint service with East Brent and Brent Knoll in our church, we persevered and well pleased we were that we did. The snow and cold did keep many away but three intrepid explorers from East Brent did make the journey, So well done, Margaret, Andrew and Rosemary, heroes of the hour, you made our day and you probably had the furthest to come too. Pleased we were too that Stewart, the first of our 'summer' regulars this year, trudged through a mile of snow lined road to get to us. In the end thirteen of us enjoyed ourselves as we sat at the feet of Stanley and then shared coffee afterwards





Rosemary (our Rosemary that is!) who is always careful to organise lambing during March so that the worst of the weather is out of the way (!), says that it is the first time she can remember lambing during a snowy weather. Good for you Rose, better you than me!!

Margaret (our Margaret that is) has moved into Tudor Lodge and is pleased to have done so. We shall miss seeing you in the village so much, Margaret, but it is surely the wise decision.

April means Easter and Easter means the Resurrection of Jesus. It also means sunrise on Brean Down to which we are all invited. Meet at Brean Down car park at 6 o'clock. There is another service at 6.30am on the beach which the Anglicans are running. Our morning service will be at the usual time of 10.30am.

Every blessing to you all for Easter, from all of us.

Harvey Allen





**West Huntspill Methodist Church**

**CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE**

Sunday 15th April 3pm

St John the Evangelist Church in Highbridge

**GUEST SPEAKER: Samuel Williams**

South West Christian Aid Rep



**Musgrove needs a new MRI scanner**

Scans are required to treat 235, 000 people each year so the present machines are working at full capacity 7 days a week. This means that the Trust has to use external providers to meet the demand, which in turn means longer waiting times and extra costs. So many conditions require a scan to be treated in the most effective way, a new scanner will benefit us all.

Bridget O’Neil is holding a fund raising evening on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April at Methodist Church. The Speaker will be Dave Mournian sharing his experiences travelling alone through North and South America on his motorbike.

There will be refreshments and a raffle. Admission is free and all donations will be for the new scanner appeal.

Do come along and enjoy Dave’s interesting and fascinating journey.



Our next COFFEE MORNING will be on

**FRIDAY APRIL 20<sup>th</sup>**

10am -- 12md

Table Top Sales

Donations for WEST HUNTSPILL SCHOOL



# BRENT KNOLL

Many of us, I'm sure, weren't sorry to see the back of the horrendous weather which caused such disruption during March. Together with the other four village churches at this end of our Circuit, we took the sensible decision to close our church on the first Sunday of the month. Despite the snow having thawed, it was still very slippery, very icy and very, very cold.

However, we were open as usual the week after when we celebrated Mothering Sunday. It was a joy to see the young people in our congregation and we were very grateful to them for their help which included reading, taking the offering and handing out posies at the end of our service.

At the time of writing, we are now looking ahead to Holy Week. Rev Steve will be taking our Palm Sunday service in the morning and is then back with us in the afternoon leading a time of prayer and song by the crosses at the top of the Knoll at 3pm. This will be followed by a service at St Mary's church in East Brent at 4pm (with refreshments afterwards). Our own Rev Margaret Trapp will be taking our Easter Sunday service which we are all very much looking forward to.

Looking further ahead, after the success of our "Praise for Pets" service last year, we are going to hold another towards the end of Spring. I will let you have further details nearer the time but, as before, all creatures (great and small!) will be welcome and if you are unable to bring them, a prayer tree will be available where you may hang a photograph of your best loved furry friend (past or present) so they may receive a prayer and a blessing.

But in the meantime, from all of us at Brent Knoll Methodist Church, we wish you a peaceful and joyful Easter time.

God bless,

Rosemary Krull.



# EAST BRENT

We have just returned from a Link Service at Brean on a very snowy cold morning. Judy Allen persuaded us all to stand outside the church after the service to take a photograph. Will our successors look at this photo in the future and wonder what the occasion was? Margaret Scott also made it across from Allerton so at least East Brent was represented.

Our Mothering Sunday service was a lovely occasion as usual and well attended. Thank you to Evelyn for making the posies of flowers which were given to all ladies present.

Some new timber for replacement crosses on the knoll (after they were vandalised last year) has arrived and they are being put together ready to be transported to the top. We will need some drier weather by the end of next week!

Rosemary Gilling



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## Web Sites

Circuit Web site [www.wsmbos.org](http://www.wsmbos.org)  
[www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk)  
[www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org](http://www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org)  
[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

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| <p><b>The Deadline for the<br/>MAY 2018 LINK is<br/>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2018</b></p> |
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## LINK ORDER FORM

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