
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

June 2009 Volume 44. No. 5.



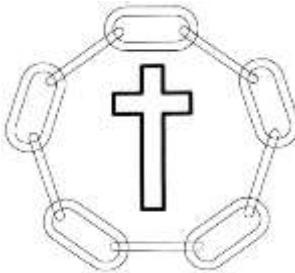
BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



WEST HUNTSPILL



EAST BRENT



BURNHAM ON SEA

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

I've just got in after serving tea's and coffee's at our Bank Holiday Café at Burnham. It was for us a new venture. Like any new venture it's the unknown that causes all the problems and worries.

Have we bought enough Jacket potatoes or milk? Do we have enough change in the float? Plus the biggest worries of all "Will anyone turn up and support us?" and don't forget "What happens if it rains?"

Well before I go on can I say "Thanks" to those who helped and those who turned out to support us. At least now we know where everything belongs in the kitchen and what is the most popular jacket potato in Burnham. Initially, today was a risk and each worry along the way is a risk.

However it does help when there are those who see beyond the risk and seize the opportunity to do something new and there are those who are better working alongside and get the job done. From the cooks in the kitchen and those at the front of house made it a team effort. At least we know it can be done with Burnham's Flower Festival and 130th Anniversary only days away.

At the end of May, we celebrate Pentecost. It is a sharing of God's gift the Holy Spirit with the Church. Some may feel that in itself was a risk too far without seeing the opportunity and goal. I believe that there is only a risk when the Church fails to understand that God is at its centre and God is in control. It's when we become too important in ourselves and when others simply "miss the plot" and go it alone, without consulting others and fail to work together as a team.

You might remember the 1970's TV slogan "Let the train take the strain". If we leave everything up to the minority then ultimately the risk gets bigger and there will come a time when the strain gets too big and something must break.

At Pentecost and when we celebrate our Anniversaries we spend time looking back at what has happened. Let's also take time to look forward to see what can happen again by keeping God at the centre and not be afraid of taking risks under His guidance.

Every Blessing, ***Stephen***

CALENDAR

JUNE

Wed. 3rd	8.00pm	Wednesday Group - Outing and A.G.M.
Thur. 4th	all day	County Council & European Elections
Fri. 5th	2.00pm 6.30pm	"FLOWER FESTIVAL AND CELEBRATION OF THE Concert by the Choir
Sat 6th	10.00 – 6.00	130TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY"
Sun 7 th	12.00 – 6.00	JUNE 5th – 7th.
Sun. 7th	am	Traidcraft table in the Hall
Tue. 9th	2.30pm	Rally at Milton Methodist Church
Wed. 10th	7.30pm	Burnham Church Council meeting to discuss the completion of the redevelopment
Sat 13th	10.00 - 12.00	Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham All Welcome
Sat. 20th	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of RNLI - Burnham Methodist Hall
Sun. 21st		LAST Day for items for the July - August LINK
Sun. 21st	11.00 & 6.30	West Huntspill Methodist Church Anniversary Services
Thurs. 25 th	3.00pm	Afternoon Tea at Dorothy and Cedric's 6 Brightstowe Road.
Sat. 27th	10.00 - 12.00	Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham All Welcome

JULY

Sat 4th	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund - Choir - All Welcome
Sat 4th	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of the BARB at West Huntspill Methodist Church - All Welcome
Sun. 5th	5.00pm	Farewell Service for Stephen - Burnham
Sun. 5th	6.00pm	Farewell Tea - Burnham
Sun. 5th	am	Traidcraft table in the Hall
Tue. 7th	3.00pm	Summer Garden Party at Thornberry Church Rd Brean (next to Brean Methodist Church)

THANK YOU.

Robin and Ethel Hutt would like to thank all who shared in Robin's birthday at the end of April, with particular thanks to the kitchen team of Karen, Lynn and Bettie. It was a very happy day, blessed with good weather, in which you all helped to raise the wonderful total of £560.00 for The Eve Appeal for research into ovarian cancer.

My thanks to Dorothy for sending me the lovely bunch of flowers following my discharge from Hospital, it was greatly appreciated.

I am recovering slowly and look forward to feeling well enough to return to Church.

God Bless. Iris Loat.

THE U IN JESUS,

Before **U** were thought of or time had begun,
God put **U** in the name of His Son.
And each time **U** pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out Jes**U**s and not include **U**.
You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For **U**, He was born; that's why He came.
And His great love for **U** is the reason He died.
It even takes **U** to spell crucified.
Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with **U** in His plan?
The stone rolled away, the gold tr**U**mpet blew,
and this word Res**U**rrection is spelled with a **U**.
When Jesus left earth at His upward Ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.
"Go into the world and tell them it's true
That I love them all - Just like I love **U**."
It all depends now on what **U** will do,
He'd like them to know,
But it all starts with **U**.

Sent in by Rev. Beth Bridges

EASTER OFFERING DEDICATION SERVICE

On Sunday evening, 17th May over 90 people gathered for this service at Victoria Methodist church, which was led by Rev. Pam Pembro, with members of various churches taking part. Rev. Gill Putnam, from St Peter's, Milton and ChAt, was the speaker. She spoke movingly of how her heart burned to bring the message of "The Way" to people in Weston and beyond and challenged us to discern what our hearts burned about and how we could bring God's love to those around us and further afield.

I am very grateful to many people who made this evening a success. To Rosemary and Chris Luker who were so helpful in putting up and setting the tables for tea; to the Victoria ladies who worked so hard in the kitchen, setting up, serving and washing up; to Mike Tedstone who played the organ, stepping in at short notice; to all who made a contribution to the tea and most of all to all who came to worship, to give thanks to God for all He does for us and all He helps us to do and to learn more about how we can spread the Good News to others.

The Offering (including the envelopes) amounted to £1,281.69 which will **all** go the Fund for World Mission which supports 61 projects worldwide. This money is even more welcome than usual this year because of the recession. Thank you all for your generosity – it is very much appreciated.

Thank you all.

With blessings,

Di
(Circuit Women's Network Secretary)

Magic Lantern Show

Saturday Evening

October 10th 2009

6.30pm.

Burnham Methodist Church

Tickets £7.00

(£5.00 if you had tickets for February 7th)

Show & Supper

From

Mrs. Ros Anderson Tel. 01278 783652



Arthritis Research

Our annual Sponsored Knit-in will be held on Thursday July 9th at 2.30pm. We spend a happy hour Knitting and Chatting and the Arthritis Research Council are most appreciative of the result which generally amounts to £300.00 plus. Will knitters bring some double knitting wool and number 9 (3³/₄) needles. I have plenty of sponsor forms.

If you do not knit why not come along for a pleasant afternoon, and, of course, a cuppa, you will be most welcome.

Muriel Hyde.

Harry's Selection

May 19 Tuesday

War in Heaven

Read Revelation 12:7-12

War broke out in heaven
[And Satan] was cast to earth

Revelation 12:7-9

The Bible in one year:

1 Chronicles 7-9

John 6:22-44

Philip Pullman is a gifted writer of fantasy books. His Dark Materials trilogy includes *The Golden Compass*, *I The Subtle Knife*, and *The Amber Spyglass* and is very popular among young readers. But below the surface of these sympathetic characters and compelling subplots is a sinister purpose. The story culminates in a great war against God.

In these books, Pullman views the fall of Satan as a righteous cause for personal independence from God's "tyrannical" control. He implies that Satan's attempt to usurp the throne of God was the right thing to do!

In the book of Revelation, we read of the endtimes: "War broke out in heaven [And Satan] was cast to earth" (Rev. 12:7-9). That future war is being preceded by an earthly conflict of the battlefield of our minds.

We must recognize Satan for what he is--- a liar (John 8:44). His strategy is to take God's words out of context and twist them into falsehood (Gen. 3:1-7). Our best defence against him is to hold firmly to the truth of God's Word (Eph.6:10-18).

Our loving heavenly Father is "not willing that any should perish" (2 Peter 3:9). But neither will He force our obedience. He leaves the choice to us. ---
Dennis Fisher

The prince of darkness grim---

We tremble not for him;

His rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure---

One little word shall fell him. ---Luther

When Satan strikes, strike back with the Word of God.

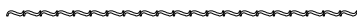
'...YOUR EARS WILL HEAR A VOICE.SAYING, THIS IS THE WAY..' ISAIAH 30:21 NIV

TUE MAY 19 Listen to God

Any time you step out in faith and try something, a voice within you will whisper, 'You must be out of your mind. You're not capable of this. Those little accomplishments you had before were pure luck; you just happened to be in the right place at the right time. Now you're in over your head.' That

voice will waken you in the middle of the night, sick to your stomach. You can hear it in every boardroom, living room and pavement It's the voice of fear, and it doesn't play fair. It pulls the file on your past failures and preys on your deepest insecurities.

But there's another voice; God's! It says: 'Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand' (Isaiah 41:10 NKJV). Attuning your ears to God's voice doesn't mean your problems are automatically solved or that the other voice just fades away. No, it's more like having an intimate conversation with a close friend in a noisy, crowded place. There may be other voices around you but you don't hear them because you're so focused on what your friend is saying. That's how it is with God's voice. Whether He speaks to you through the Scriptures, through a friend, or through your life's circumstances. He's always communicating with the heart that seeks Him. His promise to you is. 'Your ears will hear a voice...saying, "This is the way; walk in it. "' One Word from God, just one, can change your entire outlook. So today, take time to listen to God's voice.



Annual Granny Trek 2009 for Children's Hospice South West

The fourth Annual Granny Trek for Children's Hospice South West was held at Charlton Farm on 26th April and was a resounding success. Six hundred walkers took advantage of the fine weather to tramp through the bluebell woods and those tackling the six miles found the new route through the Tyntesfield Estate most enjoyable and far less taxing than previous years.

It is hoped that last year's total of £38,000 will be surpassed and huge thanks are due to the Rotarians of Bristol Severnside who do so much to help with the organisation and manning of the walks and car parks. However, even more gratitude goes to all those who took part and gave generously of their time and money.

Next year's date for your diary: Sunday, 25th April 2010

www.grannytrek.co.uk

130th Anniversary

Burnham-on-Sea Methodist Church

Flower Festival

June 5th, 6th and 7th

Refreshments

Organ Music

Cards

Plants

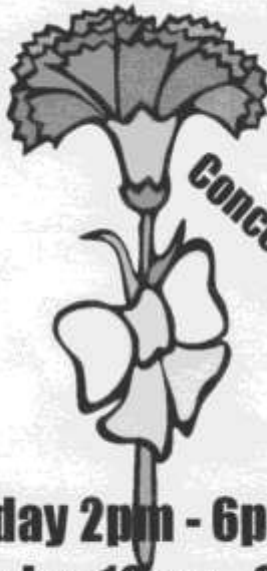
Concert Friday 6.30pm

Friday 2pm - 6pm

Saturday 10am - 6pm

Sunday 12md - 6pm

Services at 10.30 and 6.30 led by Reverend Ward Jones





Celebration Service

Telling the story...

Sunday, June 14th 2009

at 4.00 p.m.

St Alban's Church

Westbury Park

Bristol BS6 7NU

Come and share in a celebration
of British Methodism
on the occasion of the visit
to our District of representatives
from the Korean Methodist Church.

Further details from rachel@borgars.co.uk





STRAWBERRY TEA

At the home of

Dorothy and Cedric

6 Brightstowe Road.

Burnham on Sea

Thursday 25th June

3.00pm onwards

Everyone Welcome

Raffle and Stalls

In aid of the Redevelopment Fund

Transport can be arranged

LINK VILLAGES' FELLOWSHIP

We were pleased to welcome Rev. Paul Larcombe to the Fellowship on April 28th. he told us how he had trained as an engineer gaining a degree and working several areas. He then felt he was an Agnostic for a period before his conversion to Christianity. He received a call to the ministry suffering many setbacks before being ordained in Peterborough Cathedral where he served for 11 years before coming to Worle.

The new Horizon Singers entertained us on May 12th with a varied programme of music – some unaccompanied and two readings. Unfortunately their regular accompanist was unable to play as he had an important hospital appointment. The conductor explained about SURE Somerset Unit for Radiotherapy Equipment for which they have to date collected over £12,000.00. They sang at the opening of the unit at Musgrove Hospital the previous week. Members gave a very

generous donation to the fund.

Our AGM and Communion led by Rev. Stephen Hill will be the last meeting of the session on May 26th.

Eileen Goundry



LINK FELLOWSHIP

Meetings have finished for this session but a series of events will take us through the summer months and to which everyone is invited.

The first is a **Rally at Milton Methodist Church at 2.30pm on 9th June**

And then there is a **Summer Garden Party at Thornberry, Church Road, Brean (next to Brean Methodist Church) on 7th July at 3.00pm.**

And finally a **Craft morning at Locking Castle Church on 5th August followed by lunch and at 2pm a service**



EAST BRENT

It is good in to be back in Chapel again after not been able to attend for three weeks, I think we all miss not being able to worship with our friends.

Some members of our chapel attended the service at St. Mary's East Brent on Thursday where one of our church family member Emily Burrough received the highest Guiding award, The Baden Powell Award, this was presented by the district commissioner Annette Berry who is also leader of our Brownie pack and a member of our congregation,

Congratulations to Emily.

It was a pleasant surprise to have our superintendent the Rev. Robert Channon conduct our service when the Rev. Peter Davis was unable to attend.

In May we celebrated our church anniversary. For 138 years our church has been on the crossroads in East Brent proclaiming the Gospel.

We were one of two churches in the circuit to be given a large Christian Aid banner to display on the outside of the church for Christian Aid week.

I wish everyone a happy and warm summer and especially if you're going on your holiday.

Margaret Green

BURNHAM.

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

STEWARDS COLUMN

The papers say we are to have a very hot summer. The “Picnic” will be back in most people’s lives. Elizabeth and I have recently driven down from Scotland through rain and gale force winds. Can we really believe the summer will be any different?

One thing we can believe in is the love of god. No matter what the weather his love never changes, it is always there for everybody. No matter what –“He is always there for you”

Please enjoy your summer.

Bless you all.

Patrick Manning

on behalf of the Stewards.

BURNHAM REDEVELOPMENT

We look forward to the major summer event for this year,

“THE FLOWER FESTIVAL”.

We do hope everyone who reads this will come along and share this great occasion. All proceeds will be for the Redevelopment Fund.

We have worked hard in the preparation. Those who are arranging flowers have been busy making preparations - we look forward with great anticipation to seeing the final results. The catering committee has prepared for you with light refreshments.

We look forward to welcoming and sharing this special time.

We invite you to share with us if possible in a short service of Thanksgiving at 2.00pm on Friday 5th June and the Concert by the Choir at 6.30pm.

Sunday is also a great day as we celebrate the 130th anniversary of the Church. Our worship will be led by the Chairman of the District, Revd. A. Ward Jones at 10.30am. and 6.30pm. There will be an “Anniversary Tea” at 5.00pm during which the Birthday Cake will be cut and shared.

Fund raising events

June 25th Afternoon Strawberry tea at the home of Dorothy and Cedric

July Coffee Morning at Tony and Joy Bishop’s

Joyce F. Plumb. (Treasurer/Secretary)



BREAN

www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org

My mother-in-law used to say, in her broad Norfolk accent: 'How'm I? I'm all right. It's m'legs. They wun't goo!' I think Lilian Stone feels like that just now. Bright as a button in herself, just a bit of a problem getting up and walking around. But she's had a new zigzag path built from house to gate and you never know, one of these days we could well see her back in church. Meanwhile Celia and Jimmy tape our services so that she can share worship with us albeit after the event.

She would have enjoyed our new Monday coffee mornings. We had felt that there were a number of people in Brean, especially those who lived by themselves, who would appreciate the chance to just come and have a chat over coffee, and we chose Mondays to fill that gap that comes after the weekend. In the couple of weeks that we have held it so far, it has proved a very useful addition to our activities.

Jimmy Steadman's group that makes dolls' houses have also started to use our premises having had trouble to find a suitable location in Burnham. It is good that the church is being used productively by the community.

But now we are having to face up to the scary job of getting the roof of the building replaced. Estimates were over £30,000, far above what we could afford, and we are trying our best to find ways of bringing down the cost. However, its got to be done and grants these days are proving difficult to get hold of. So remember us in your prayerful thoughts.

Our thoughts are also with Stuart Hicks and his family for he is not so well and in Holywell at Brent Knoll.

We have been blessed with a fair number of summer visitors so far with Steve and Lynn Pigeon regulars of several years' standing, worshipping with us as often as they can get down to Brean. Steve, an accomplished harmonica player, has helped us in our worship from time to time.

Some of the youngsters are coming to the end of college courses and/or are in the middle of exams, so to them, and especially to Becky and Roy and Vicky Baker, our best wishes for them and for whatever the future holds.

Our best wishes to Burnham for their Flower Festival and other anniversary celebrations

Harvey Allen



WEST HUNTSPILL

West Huntspill Methodist Church
Coffee Morning

Saturday July 4th 2009

10 am to 12 Midday



Various Stalls
In Aid of BARB

BURNHAM AREA RESCUE BOAT

**A Warm Welcome
to Our**

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

Sunday 21st June 2009

Preachers

**11am Revd Stephen Hill
6.30pm Revd Debbie Borda**

Prayer Plus

A group meets every Friday, 1.45pm for 2.00pm start at
Janet's 7, Grange Road, West Huntspill.

A warm welcome awaits anyone who would like to join them.

BRENT KNOLL

A recent headline in the local paper read “Give Good News a Chance” as Christians we have the best good news of all and should we not keep that fact in the forefront of our thinking in these days of loss of faith in our government and the expenses crisis etc?

So it was that when we celebrated our 172nd Church Anniversary on the 10th May we were glad that Rev. Stephen led our worship with a very positive theme. A good congregation welcomed him with his fiancée Betsan and little Chloe and in his sermon he expressed gratitude for the contribution to our church fellowship made by our stewards Bill and Keith and Joan our organist as well as all who add in any way to the warm fellowship we enjoy. And while we give thanks for all that is past we look forward with hope to the future. After the service most of the congregation adjourned to Brent House for a celebratory Meal.

We now look forward to Pentecost when “Churches together” will meet at Burnham Church and the preacher will be Rev. Nicola Sullivan of the Bath and Wells Diocese

We send our love and greetings to Burnham church as they celebrate their 130th Anniversary and our best wishes for their Flower Festival on June 5th - 7th. They have achieved so much in recent years.

Our Shell Club is going to the Circuit Skating on Saturday 4th July and if anyone would like to join the group please contact Sue Cox.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Spring Sale and Coffee Morning on May 23rd for some positive hospitality.

Finally part of a prayer from page 69 of the Manual.

Gracious God I praise you for the life I have in Jesus, with the hope of eternal life to come and with it assurance of God’s presence each day of my present life.

Every blessing,

Kathleen BurrIDGE.

Minister

Rev. Stephen Hill, 28A Caernarvon Way. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2DQ
stephen@hill735.fsworld.co.uk Tel. (01278) 782306

Editors

Cedric & Dorothy May, 6 Brightstowe Road. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2HW
cedric.may@btinternet.com Tel. (01278) 784204

Web Sites

www.methodistchurchburnhamonseas.org.uk
www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org
www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

**The Deadline for the
July - August 2009 “LINK” is
Sunday 19th June 2009**

**LARGE PRINT COPIES (A4 format) of the “LINK” are available.
Please contact the Editor if you would like one.**

If you do not have the ‘LINK’ regularly and would like to do so, please fill in the slip and hand to a Steward. or send to the Editor.
Price £3.00 per annum. Inland Post £3.00 per annum.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

POST CODE.....CHURCH.....

LINK £3.00 Postage Donation £.....

Please make Cheques Payable to “Burnham on Sea Methodist Church.”