

LINK PLUS++++

June 2023



If you are joining in with Bible Month and would like to know the daily readings, they can be downloaded at www.methodist.org.uk/media/28628/methodist-biblemonth_daily-reading-guide-final.pdf

Dear Friends

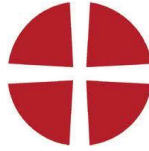
With the summer fast approaching, I have been out in the garden trying to get on top of the weeds. I once heard someone describing weeds as 'plants in the wrong place', and others singing about the virtues of dandelion flowers for the bee population, yet to me they are unwanted plants that I engage in a year-round battle with. The worst of all is bindweed, which beats me every time. Just as I think I have got rid of them, a rogue root left in the ground forms new plants that try to choke the life out of the flowers and bushes I love so much. So, when in the bible I read about the weeds, these are the things I think about – dandelions and bindweed!

In Jesus' parable of wheat and weeds, he warns the disciples about the way in which those things that are not 'good' can grow and make God's people less fruitful. Good and bad grow together, in our gardens, in the world, and in our lives. Our challenge is to recognise what is of God and good, and what is worldly or selfish, the bad that stifles the goodness in our hearts. Once recognised, we can pray for God to root it out and put it on the fires to be burned.

The good news is that, unlike my battle with my garden weeds, the victory Jesus won on the cross is the best and only weedkiller for our lives of sin and the badness that sometimes surfaces within us. The resurrection is still the best defence against our human weed problem, and the Holy Spirit of God makes sure that the wheat within us gets all it needs to prevail.

Happy gardening.

Steve



Brean Methodist Church

<http://www.breanmethodistchurch.org.uk>

There were seven of us at our coffee morning last week. We had all seen each other the previous day, so was there anything to talk about? Of course there was. We were all Methodists when all was said and done. Except on this occasion we went on for 20 minutes or so after we normally break up and go home. We ranged from the frustration of dealing with opticians (and dentists and doctors too I guess) who no longer work as their own businesses but are joined to nationwide groupings,. In making appointments with them they no longer seem to know you as their favourite customer but treat you as though this was their first dealing with you and anonymous; we moved on to flying bugs, things that become of great irritation at this time of year and how we remedy them (and this led on to slugs and snails and things); and then banks, cookies on websites, and several other things I can no longer remember. Interestingly, irritating though they all were, we finished up in hoots of laughter. The best way of dealing with them I guess. Not every week is like that, but you don't know what you are missing by not being there. 10.30 on Monday mornings, all welcome.

The Coronation went off quite well we thought. All of us spent time watching it on TV and we all wished them well. It was a very welcome celebration, and then we also enjoyed our bring and share lunch on the Sunday.

Easter and its season are fully expended now, and in seven weeks we shall be past the longest day. How time flies. At least we are now getting some better weather; how long I wonder before we start wishing for it be cooler and perhaps to look forward for a bit of rain.

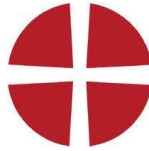
Pentecost was a joy. More than twenty of us assembled on a warm sunny morning but our new system couldn't connect to the wi-fi that we needed in order to start things off; so hymn books were dusted off. Jim McKnight took the service. 'You may not know this one' said Jim introducing the first hymn 'so I will sing the first verse while Rose plays it, and then we'll start again'. But Jim had not reckoned with the folk at Brean. By the second line half the congregation were quietly singing it too and by the end of the verse pretty well everyone was in full voice. It set the scene and Jim picked up the vibe in his own inimitable way. 'Holy Spirit, we welcome you' Indeed, indeed. And then, we were all still in animated discussion around the coffee table at a quarter past twelve.

A lovely way to head into Bible month. Joyce, who is taking the first of the four services on Revelation for us, has already handed out a summary page with a map of the seven churches, so we look forward to what she has to say on the subject of 'The church then and now'.

Otherwise, it has been a slow start to the holiday season. The economy and the weather have contributed perhaps but some people are speculating about the effect of Pontins (with a capacity of 2500) now being taken over by EDF for some of their Hinkley personnel (up to 900 workers and away from the village all day and perhaps fully so at weekends). The absence of so many holidaymakers makes quite an effect on the village and on the traders who rely on their summer business.

We enjoyed the French evening at Burnham chapel in May. A varied and delicious meal and many thanks to Liz and all who helped. Welcome to June. We hope it will be a good month for you all.

Harvey Allen



**Brent Methodist Church
Brent Knoll**

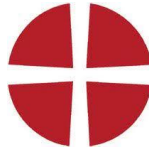
A service of celebration for the life of Ruth Knott took place here at Brent Knoll last month. And it was a real celebration of the life of a quite incredible woman. The poignant eulogy and the shared memories and stories of Ruth's long and full life were read by Ruth's children and grandchildren. Her entire family did her proud and we were all privileged to share in this tribute to Ruth.

An early reminder that we will be holding our annual Church coffee mornings each Saturday morning during August, starting at 10.30am. Proceeds will go to charities and local causes, details of which I will provide in the next Summer edition of The Link Plus.

Finally, a huge thank you to all who helped with a big Spring clean of our Church. The building certainly looks brighter after all your hard work.

With every blessing from all of us here at Brent Knoll Methodist Church.

Rosemary Krull



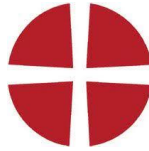
**Brent Methodist Church
East Brent**

How wonderful, we've finally got some sunshine and doesn't everything look better when the sun shines? Let's hope that the gremlins, that have been plaguing our organ, stay away this Sunday - that would really put a smile on our faces. Thank you to all our preachers who have led our worship (and singing) even when our organ has decided not to co-operate. We did feel particularly sorry for Tim who said that it had also happened on his last visit. We can assure you all that we certainly don't plan it!!

We were sorry to hear that Bert Bratt had died. Bert and Diane were part of our congregation for many years and only stopped coming when it became too difficult for Bert to be up and ready in time to make the journey. They were sorely missed. Diane, we send you our love and prayers.

Exam time, holiday time, gardening time, whatever you have happening in your lives we wish you all a good summer.

Margaret Scott



**Burnham, Highbridge, and Huntspills Methodist Church
Burnham**

<http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk/>

The last few weeks have been very busy at Burnham Methodists. To celebrate King Charles Coronation we held a Bring and Share lunch after the morning service on Sunday May 7th. Lots of food was donated and everyone seemed to really enjoy it. There was also a lovely French Meal that took place in the middle of the month. It was very well attended and as always the food was excellent.

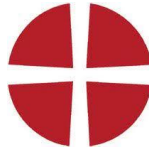
June looks as if it will also be a busy month. Messy Church meets on Sunday June 4th at 3.30 pm. If you have children or grandchildren who would like to join us please come along. We are also looking for more people who would like to help with Messy Church.

A Knit and Natter group runs from 2.pm to 4.pm in the church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. You don't have to be a good knitter, if you want to learn there are people there to help you. It is not just for knitters, we also have people who crochet or sew. We are trying to make items that can be donated to charities or local hospital. Please come along.

On June 19th at 7.00 pm we are holding a Beetle Drive. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to book, just turn up.

This month we have some holiday makers coming to the morning service. They all seem to enjoy the service as well as staying for coffee afterwards. One couple commented that we were a very friendly church and they would be back in two weeks.

Marian Foster on behalf of the stewards.



Burnham, Highbridge, and Huntspills Methodist Church West Huntspill

Our service takes place every Sunday at 11.00am. You will be very welcome to join us. Our Church Anniversary is on Sunday the 25th of June and our evening Service is at 6.00pm. Led by Rev. Steve Bennett.

The Prayer Group meets on Tuesday afternoons at 2.00pm. June dates are the 6th and 20th. If you know of anyone in need of Prayer, please let Mrs. Christine Thomas know at the above number.

Coffee and Chat is held on the last Friday every month the next will be on Friday the 23rd. We do enjoy seeing our many friends from the Link Churches. Do come and join us in a warm and friendly atmosphere. In May donations were for 'Weston Hospice Care.' We were fortunate to have Carla Bloomfield their Hospice Guardian and Custodian, who came along and spoke to us about the work they do. We would like to thank everyone who joined us for an enjoyable morning, the generous donations amounted to £165. Thank you.



Donations for the coffee morning in June will again be for "Parkinson's UK (Local Branch)"

There was an old man lived in MARK. By Ruby Stuart

There was an old man lived in MARK.

Who one day in a Rhine saw a SHARK.

He said "what a SHOCK."

I'll run home and LOCK.

All my doors and build me an ARK

Janet J. & Kay

PLUS +++ POEMS, PRAYERS and OTHER MESSAGES

Circuit Matters

Stewards

As announced at the last Circuit Meeting, our Circuit is in desperate need of Circuit Stewards. Paul Gregory has given notice of his intention to stand down after completing his term of office in August 2024. Whilst this is some time away, this Circuit cannot operate with just one Circuit Steward.

If people do not come forward by the June Circuit Meeting, then we will have to acknowledge that we will no longer be able to operate as an independent Circuit after 2024 and will need to find a Circuit to join with. Because this is not a quick or easy process, we need to know whether we have a replacement for Paul by June this year.

Please search your hearts and if you feel you might be called to this important work, speak to one of the Ministers or Circuit Stewards who will be able to give you more information.

Please also pay that God's will might be done, and if that is to join with another Circuit, those conversations go well.

Rev Angie Hoare & Deacon Gary Hoare

As you will be aware, Angie and Gary leave this Circuit in July. Angie will be sitting down (the Methodist term for retirement!) and Gary will be taking up a new post in Harrogate. Their leaving service will be on 16th July at Milton Methodist Church. Tea will be served at 5pm, followed by the service at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Rev Judith Lincoln

We welcome Judith (and her husband Roger) to this Circuit in September. Her welcome service will be at Milton Methodist Church on Saturday 2nd September at 2pm and will be led by Rev Dr Jonathan Pye, Chair of our Bristol District.

The Link Fellowship

The Link Fellowship met a couple of days after the Coronation of King Charles. We had an interesting afternoon where people shared their opinions on a book they had just read, or told us about a favourite book. It gave us a very interesting afternoon both from having titles recommended or hearing the stories behind favourite books. It was Brean's turn to provide the refreshments, and we enjoyed delicious cupcakes with the Coronation logo on top, and melt in the mouth chocolate brownies.

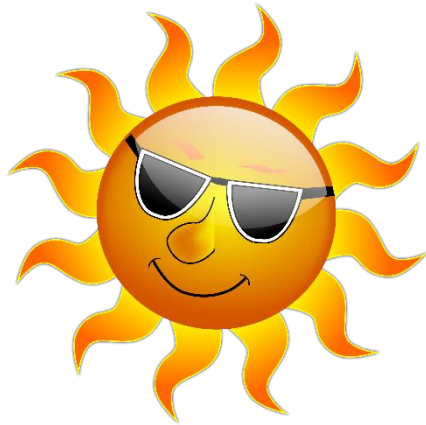
Our next meeting is on Tuesday June 13th at East Brent schoolroom at 2.30pm. our theme this time is "Hymns and their stories". Please let Evelyn Tucker know if there is a hymn you would like her to look up to see the history of the hymn -or there may be a hymn with a personal story that you would like to share.

Everyone is welcome.

Joyce Pipet.

**Please note the
deadline for the
Summer Link Plus
(July/August) is**

18th June.



DIARY

Date & Time	Location	Event
Weekly		
Wed 10am	Zoom*	Link Bible Study
Thurs 11.am	Zoom*	Link Coffee Morning
Tue/Wed & Thurs 9.00am – 5.00pm	Burnham	Waffle Hub Community Café and associated activities.
*Contact Rev Steve for zoom links		
June		
19 th 7.00pm	Burnham	Beetle Drive
20 th 7.30pm	Brent Knoll	Circuit Meeting
21 st 7.30pm	Burnham	Local Preacher's Meeting
25 th	West Huntspill	Church Anniversary
July		
15 th 3.00pm	Burnham	Musical Cream Tea
16 th 5.00pm	Milton	Tea and Farewell Service for Angie & Gary Hoare
August		
5 th 10.30am	Brent Knoll	Charity Coffee Morning
12 th 10.30am	Brent Knoll	Charity Coffee Morning
14 th 7.00pm	Burnham	Quiz Night
19 th 10.30am	Brent Knoll	Charity Coffee Morning
26 th 10.30am	Brent Knoll	Charity Coffee Morning
27 th 3.00pm	Brean	Songs of Praise