
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

November 2015 Volume 50. No. 9.



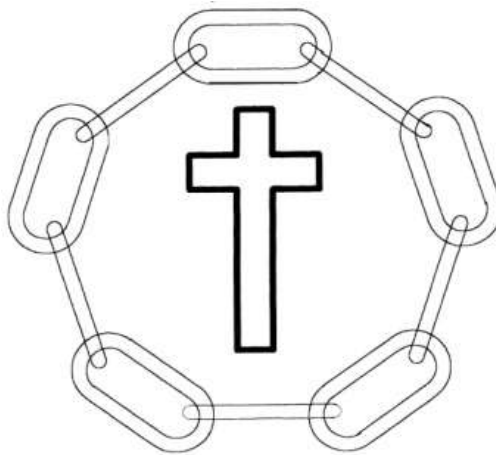
BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



WEST HUNTSPILL



EAST BRENT



BURNHAM ON SEA

Minister's Letters

Dear Friends

Remember, remember, remember!

Our brains have a tremendous capacity to remember things. We have an immensely powerful computer in our heads that stores memories and has a mechanism for recalling those memories when we need them. For some people this retrieval system doesn't work as well, either naturally or through ill-health, but we all have it.

Mostly we remember good things or bad things that have happened to us, and they stick in the mind. These memories shape who we are and are the building blocks of our conversations.

The start of the month of November is a time for remembering. There are many events and festivals both within the church calendar and in history that encourage us to recall our own personal experiences, or to recall occasions of long ago. Some of these are more memorable than others, some are more important than others, but it is important that we remember them. I have listed a few dates below; see how many significant events of those dates you can recall (answers below)

1st November

2nd November

5th November

7th November

9th November

11th November

This short time of remembering culminates with the remembrance that we make on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the month, when we honour those who have died to protect our freedom and way of life. We remember that people are still dying for this reason on fields of foreign lands.

We remember too that the sacrifice of one person, in a far off land, 2,000 years ago changed everything for us, and for the world,

and gave freedom to those trapped by their own guilt and wickedness.

Answers

1st – *All Saints (we remember the Saints)*

2nd – *All Souls (we remember all who have died)*

5th – *Bonfire Night (we remember the events of 1605)*

7th – *Last public hanging in Britain (we remember the sanctity of life)*

9th – *Berlin Wall destroyed (we remember the events of 1989)*

11th – *Remembrance Day (we remember the fallen in battle)*

Steve



Deaths

Daphne Carter. Funeral Sedgemoor Crematorium. 22nd October



Calendar

OCTOBER

Sat 24th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham

Tue. 27th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship Rev. Stanley
Pipet - Milton Ladies Visit

Sat 31st 10.00-4.00 B/H Food Festival Coffee & Tea served all
day

NOVEMBER

Wed 4th 8.00pm B/H Wednesday Group - Jean Mackie
Christmas Flower arrangements

Thu. 5th 2.30pm B/H Thursday Fellowship - Mr John Trebble.

Sat 7th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Fund Raising Coffee Morning for Action
for Children

Sun 8th 10.30am Joint LINK Service at St Bridget's

Tue. 10th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship Members
Afternoon

Thur 12th 2.30pm B/K Emmaus course at Brent Knoll
Methodist

Sat 14th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham

Sat 14th 1030 - 12.00 E/B East Brent Christmas Sale & Coffee
etc.

Sun 15th Joint Link Service at Brean

Sun 15th 6.00pm B/H Cafe Church TBA

Wed 18th 2.30pm B/H Bible Study at Burnham

Thur 19th 2.30pm B/H Thursday Fellowship - Members
afternoon

Sat 21st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning by & in aid of Biars

Sun 22nd **LAST DAY FOR THE DECEMBER - JANUARY LINK**

Tue. 24th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship Mrs Margaret
Scott - Marzipan Fruits

Thur 26th 2.30pm B/K Emmaus course at Brent Knoll
Methodist

Sat 28th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham

Sat 28th 10.30 - 12.00 B/K Brent Knoll Christmas Coffee Morning

DECEMBER

Wed 2nd 8.00pm B/H Wednesday Group - Christmas
Thoughts by a member of the clergy

Thu. 3rd 2.30pm B/H Thursday Fellowship Mrs Joyce Pipet.

Sat 5th 10.00 - 2.00 B/H Burnham Christmas Fair

Tue. 8th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship Christmas
Tea Carols & Cakes

Thur 10th 2.30pm B/K Emmaus course at Brent Knoll
Methodist

Sat 12th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee at Burnham

Wed 16th 2.30pm B/H Bible Study at Burnham
Sat 19th 10.30 - 12.00 BR Coffee & Carol at Brean
Sat 19th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning by & in aid of Biars
Thur 24th BR Brean Carol Service

B/H Burnham, BR Brean, B/K Brent Knoll, E/B East Brent,

A Coffee Morning

In aid of
Action for Children
will be held at
Burnham Methodist Church
on Saturday 7th November
10.00 – 12.00noon
Stalls – Cakes, Books, Action for Children
Christmas Cards, Bric-a-Brac, Raffle

CHRISTMAS FAIR

will be held at
Burnham Methodist Church
on Saturday 5th December
10.00 – 2.00pm.
Many Stalls – Tea & Coffee
Lunches served from 12.00o'clock
In aid of Roof Improvement

Cafe Church dates at Burnham

We meet on the third Sunday evening in the month
at 6.00 pm

Sunday 15th November at 6.00 pm TBA



We haven't yet finalised the speakers for these dates.

We start with a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or three from about 5.30 pm and help ourselves to refills during the evening.

We sing a few hymns or songs, have a short talk followed by a discussion, then a few more songs, ending with the Grace at about 7.00 pm.

All are welcome to come and join us.

LINK VILLAGES' FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday, September 22nd, Rev. Peter Davis told us of his way of Wood Turning. He brought several pieces of wood and using his lathe he made a mushroom, a bud vase and a plant dibber. He had some pieces for sale. After he had finished, some members had a "go" on the lathe, it was a most interesting afternoon.

On October 13th, two of the voluntary workers of "Free Wheelers" came to tell of the areas they cover as they transport Blood in an emergency to various parts of the West Country by motor cycle. This is a very important work. They work in shifts and are on call when hospitals are in need. After their talk, a collection was taken.

We are to entertain the ladies from Milton Fellowship on October 27th when the Speaker will be Rev. Stanley Pipet We look forward to seeing them each year.

November 10th. will be our members' Afternoon when there will be a Bring and Buy Stall.

Eileen Goundry



HARRY'S Readings

MAKING YOURSELF LOOK GOOD

'LAY YOUR HAND UPON YOUR MOUTH; Proverbs 30:32 AMP

YOUR TONGUE is just inches from your brain, but the way some of us rattle on you'd think our mouths and minds were miles apart! James says, 'The tongue .corrupts the whole body' (James 3:5-6 NIV 2011 Edition). Author Ramona Cramer Tucker writes: 'I admit I'm a talker. I don't set out to break a confidence, but somehow my mouth kicks into gear before my brain...But God takes a clear stand on gossip. He knows loose lips can ruin another person's reputation, introduce mistrust into a relationship, encourage the gossiper to embellish their tale, and cause them to sin by being tempted to lie when confronted I love to share news, to be "in the know", and because I'm wired this way it's easy for me to spread gossip under the guise of being well-meaning, even prefacing my news with "I wish you'd pray for". But just

because my sharing is well-meant doesn't mean it's appropriate. 'The most common reason for making someone else look bad –is to make ourselves look good! We are like the proud Pharisee in the temple who stood alone and prayed, God, I thank you that I am not like other people..' (Luke 18:11 NCV).

The writer of Proverbs says, 'If you have done foolishly in exalting yourself, or thought evil, Lay your hand upon your mouth. It's one thing to think bad thoughts - it's another to voice them.

The saying goes: 'You can't stop the birds from flying over your head, but you can stop them from building a nest in your hair! 'So do yourself and everybody around you a favour – practise putting your brain in gear before engaging our mouth. Is 50-52 1 Col 2

Playing with Fire

When I was a young boy, my mum warned me that I should never play with fire. Yet one day I decided to see what would happen if I did. Taking a box of matches and some paper, I went out into the garden to experiment. With heart beating fast, I knelt on the ground, struck the match and set the paper aflame.

Suddenly I saw my mother approaching. Not wanting to get caught, I put my legs over the flames to hide what I was doing. But Mum shouted, "Denny, move your legs! There's a fire underneath them!" Fortunately I moved my legs quickly and was not burned. I realised then that my mother's rule about not playing with fire was not to spoil my fun but them, because of her concern to keep me safe.

TODAY'S READING
John 15:10-20

Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me.... And I too will love them and show myself to them. 14:21

Sometimes we don't understand the reasons behind God's commands. We may even think He is a cosmic killjoy, setting up rules and regulations to keep us from enjoying ourselves. But God asks us to obey Him because He has our best interests at heart. As we obey, we "remain in his love" and are filled with joy (JOHN 15:10-11).

So when God warns us not to sin, He does it for our own good. He really wants to protect us from "playing with fire" and getting burned. DENNIS FISHER

Dear heavenly Father, may Your Holy Spirit empower us to obey Your Word. We thank You for the protection Your precepts provide and the love and joy we find in obeying You.



WEST HUNTSPILL



Coffee and Chat
On Friday 27th November
10.00am - 12.00noon

The Oxford Ridgeway Ultra Run



The smile and the medal that says it all!

Well done and Congratulations to Tony Hayes and his friend Greg for completing this very difficult run. It was classed as a double marathon of 53miles across the Ridgeway in a very hilly and wooded terrain. To add to their trial it was also a very cold damp day.

Tony's sponsorship money is going to Christian Aid to assist with their work in the Refugee Crises in Europe. We will let you know the final figure next month. If anyone feels able to support the cause, please contact Maureen on 01278783774



BRENT KNOLL

www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

Minister Revd. Steve Bennett

Well Autumn is definitely here and we shared our first joint service of the season with Brean and East Brent in October led by Steve. We enjoyed catching up with friends over refreshments afterwards and are looking forward to visiting Brean on the 15th November.

Unfortunately, many of our Link friends have succumbed to the various illnesses which seem to come hand in hand with the change of season. We wish you all a speedy recovery and you're in our thoughts and prayers.

Well, we must all be aware by now that Christmas is on its way. If the shops were anything to go by, Christmas seems to have been on its way as soon as the children went back to school after the summer holidays! So a date for your festive diaries - we will be holding our Christmas coffee morning on Saturday 28 November at 10.30am. As you know, we love getting together with our Circuit friends and refreshments will include mince pies (of course!) so please do join us!

God bless,

Rosemary Krull.



EAST BRENT

Well it was good to be back at East Brent after a great holiday but a long flight that we are just about over the jet lag and how delightful to have Revd Robin Hutt take our service this morning. He and Ethel both looking so well joined us with Revd Steve for lunch in the hall organised by Margaret Scott and after lunch was cleared we got down to the business of our Church Council over coffee etc. Agreement was made to go ahead with installing solar panels to the Church roof after the property division has been informed; also we are having so many people requesting to use our hall that it may be difficult to accommodate them all.

We are holding our usual Christmas sale on **SATURDAY 14th November 10.30am to 12am** with the usual Christmas cards, cakes and plants. The Rainbows will be having a stall and a lucky dip.

We welcome Tui Clapp back amongst us (back home really) and our thoughts are with Anne at this time also all others that are not too well.

On a Circuit matter I wish to convey to all that the collection at Victoria for the welcome service amounted to £502 and has been sent to the District Chairman's Development Fund as agreed.

Gordon Legg

BURNHAM

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

STEWARDS COLUMN.

As a steward I often have the privilege of greeting visiting Ministers and Local Preachers when they arrive at our church. Over the last few weeks several have mentioned what a friendly church we are. I hope we are as we should always extend the hand of friendship to whoever comes through our doors, whether they are a minister, local preacher, regular worshipers or visitors. The other day one of my son in laws arrived in his grubby work clothes to drop off his children for Sunday Club. He later commented 'It was lovely as the gentleman on the door looked at my work clothes and just gave me a lovely smile and said 'Welcome. It is lovely to see you.'

During this year I had the privilege to worship in some different 'churches' in this country as well as several in Europe. In most places the churches or cathedrals were in the capital city and were used to visitors. They had friendly people on the door who were only too willing to help, answer questions or explain things to us, usually in perfect English. We had been told by friends that we must visit the Cathedral in Tallinn as it was one of the most beautiful in Europe. My husband and I could see the lovely cathedral on top of the hill, towering over the city. After quite a long walk we arrived at the cathedral but finding the entrance was difficult as there were no signs. Eventually we entered noticing that we could only visit a small part of the Cathedral and these parts seemed very dark and unwelcoming. I tried to talk to the man in the small shop about the cathedral but although his English was good he seemed reluctant to talk to any visitors. We sat and watched as other visitors came in, quickly looked around and then hurried out. It may have been beautiful but it was certainly not welcoming. The most welcoming service I went to this year was not in a church as such, it was a Sunday service held in the theatre onboard the ship

we were on. The service was led by an Anglican Archbishop and was for all denominations. The four hundred people there were all greeted like long lost friends. It has made me wonder what visitors to our church think of us. I hope they do find a welcome and a friendly smile, something nice to remember not like our frosty welcome in Tallinn. It seems to me it doesn't matter what size the church is, how beautiful or plain it is , what matters is how we as Christians welcome others into our community, and then how we continue to show that we care for each other.

Marian Foster.



BREAN

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

What exciting times we live in! On the day I write this we have been evacuated because they tell us there's a bomb on the beach adjacent to us. Just time then to pick up the dog and push off into Burnham for a walk round Apex and then a fish and chip lunch. Back home afterwards to find that the road has been re-opened and we are allowed through. But as soon as we get out of the car we hear a big bang as another device is exploded by the Bomb Disposal Squad

Later we stroll over the footpath onto the beach but we can find no trace of any disturbance, which I guess is a reflection on our own lives. How often do we burst onto the scene with great noise and gusto only for the sands of life to have been left undisturbed when all the hoo-hah has quietened down. (Or am I thinking about my younger days?)

Our Anglican friends are talking to a prospective priest for their two churches in Berrow and Brean this week and by the time that this Link is published they will know whether they have been successful. We shared our Harvest Celebrations together. Just over thirty people enjoyed a cooked lunch in our church hall after our Harvest Thanksgiving service and a good time was had by all. A couple of days previous to this, our Ecumenical Council had met to review, and to plan for the months ahead; eating and worshipping together is great, but it is good to talk together too.

We were sorry to learn of the death of one of our members, Daphne Carter. She had been ill for a while but still tried to come and worship with us whenever possible. We send our best wishes to her family. Daphne's first husband Don (Hale) had installed the central heating and renovated all of the plumbing in our house when Judy and I moved to Brean 40 years ago.

November brings our monthly joint service shared with East Brent and Brent Knoll, to Brean on 15th November. In spite of

what it says on the Plan it will be held in our church not St Bridget's. We have also realised that no preacher was appointed so it looks as though Stanley, Joyce and I will be sharing the duties on that day. The 8th November sees us at St Bridget's for Remembrance Sunday worship starting at 10.45am. And as mentioned last month, our Church Council will be held after service on November 1st.

By way of advance notice here are a couple of our Christmas events;

Saturday 19th December from 10.30am to 12 noon; like in previous years, we are led by Ann and Rosemary as we enjoy a cup or two of coffee and sing the carols of our choice;

Thursday 24th December is our annual Family Carol service, 40 minutes or so of informal worship with sketches, readings and verses from carols. A popular way to get the Christmas Festival under way.

Please do your best to come and support us – you will be very welcome. (Gets Christmas off with a bang you might say!)

Harvey Allen



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Web Sites

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

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| <p style="text-align: center;">The Deadline for the December 2015 January 2016 “LINK” is Sunday 22nd November 2015</p> |
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