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# THE LINK

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**Methodist Link Churches Magazine**

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**October 2018 Volume 53. No. 8.**

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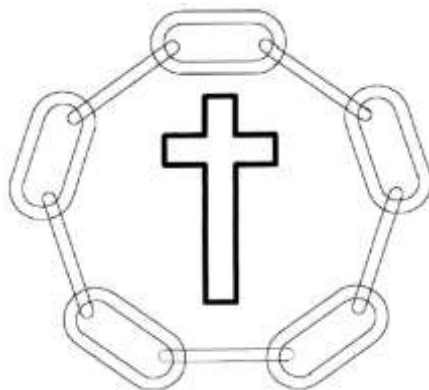
**BRENT KNOLL**



**BREAN**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM on SEA**

# Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

A boat was sinking and so the captain shouted out to all those on board, "Does anyone know how to pray"? One man replied confidently and said "Yes, I do." "Good," said the captain, "you stand here and pray, and the rest of us will put on life-jackets. We are one short."

Throughout his life John Wesley recorded a journal. His final entry was on 23rd February 1791, six days before he died. It began and ended with the same word, "prayed." For Wesley, prayer was the most important means of grace, the most important way that through God's grace, we might grow closer to him. The early Methodists were a movement that prayed. In fact, we know from Wesley's journals they had some fairly intensive prayer meetings. He wrote on 1st January 1939,

"Mr. Hall, Kinchin, Ingham, Whitefield, Hatchins, and my brother Charles, were present at our love-feast in Fetter-Lane, with about sixty of our brethren. About three in the morning, as we were continuing constant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, in so much that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell to the ground."

Three o'clock in the morning and there were over 60 people present!

Do we pray enough as churches? I think we probably all know the answer to that one! Sometimes we will want to know why God seemingly answers prayers that we might consider trivial and seems to ignore those which are matters of life and death. There are no easy answers, but we cannot allow these mysteries to stop us from praying and believing in its power.

One example of the power of prayer comes in the book of Acts. For 10 days prior to Pentecost the disciples joined together in constant prayer. They prayed for 10 days and then Peter preached for 10 minutes and 3000 were added to their number. I heard one preacher suggest that today we would "preach for 10 days and pray for 10 minutes and be overjoyed if one person responded".

We need to pray more!

**Steve.**



# CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER

- Fri 28th 10.00 - 12.00 W/H Coffee & Cake at West Huntspill Methodist
- Fri 28th 7.00pm. Fourth Friday at 68 Maple Drive Burnham not Watchfield
- Sat 29th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
- Sun 30th E/B East Brent Harvest
- Mon 1st 8.45 - 10.30 B/K Tea, Chat & Prayer at Brent Knoll Methodist

## OCTOBER

- Wed 3rd 2.30 - 4.00 B/H Wednesday Group - Desert Island Discs
- Sat 6th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning by Choir
- Mon 8th 8.45 - 10.30am B/K Quiet time of prayer and meditation at Brent Knoll see page 8
- Tue 9th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Milton Ladies Visit - Michael Bridges.
- Wed 10th 12.00pm B/H Communion & 12.30 Lunch
- 13th 4.00pm B/H Messy Church
- Sun 14th 10.30 BR Brean Harvest & Meal
- Mon 15th 10.00 Julian Meeting at St Andrews Church
- Mon 15th 2.30 - 4.00 B/H Tea & Chat Burnham Methodist
- Sat 20th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Weston Hospice Coffee Morning

## Sun 21st **LAST DAY FOR THE NOVEMBER 2018 LINK**

- Sun 21st 10.30 BR Joint Link Service at Brean
- Tue 23rd 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Wessex Water.
- Fri 26th 10.00 - 12.00 W/H Coffee & Cake at West Huntspill Methodist
- Fri 26th 7.00pm. Fourth Friday at Wisteria Cottage Watchfield.
- Sat 27th **FOOD FEST** In Burnham.

## NOVEMBER

- Sat 3rd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Action for Children Coffee Morning
- Mon 5th 8.45 - 10.30 B/K Quiet time of prayer and meditation at Brent Knoll Methodist
- Wed 7th 2.30 - 4.00 B/H Wednesday Group - Christmas Crafts by Linda Kruger
- Sat 10th 4.00pm B/H Messy Church
- Tue 13th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - Celebrating

Centenaries. - Bring & Buy  
Wed14th 12.00pm B/H Communion & 12.30 Lunch - Dorothy  
784204

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

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**COFFEE MORNING**  
**MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**  
Saturday October 6<sup>th</sup> 10am – 12md  
at Burnham-on-Sea Methodist Church  
All proceeds from this coffee morning will go  
to  
Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please do join us – there will be items for  
sale, cakes to eat and a raffle, and anything  
else that we can think of to raise money for  
this very important organisation

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# BURNHAM.

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

## STEWARDS COLUMN

Well the Autumn is here. We celebrated our Harvest on September 16th. It was lovely to see all the gifts donated by our congregation. We had a lovely service lead by Rev Steven Bennett. We not only learnt about a mustard seed but also about a mustard tree. Who knew that a tiny mustard seed can grow into a tree 20 feet high and 20 feet across? Well most of us proved we didn't. We also learnt a new harvest hymn and as the tune was a Samba we all tried to dance to it as well as sing,. We liked it so much we asked if we could have it again as we left the church, so we tried to Samba to the music as we left. It brought smiles to everyone's face and was great fun. In the evening we joined the congregation at West Huntspill to help them celebrate their harvest. It was another lovely service and we always enjoy these visits



I recently learnt an interesting fact from Sylvia Wright. Sylvia has known me all my life and celebrated her 100th birthday in February. I still drive her to our church most Sunday mornings. She and I were talking about her early life when she said she lived in Hednesford, Staffordshire but often came to Weston-Super-Mare on holiday when she was a child. While in Weston they stayed in Drove Road and always worshipped at the Sunnyside Methodist Church. One Sunday the Minister said they were trying to build a new Methodist Church in Brean. If anyone wanted to help with this cause they could buy a brick. Sylvia said her Dad bought a brick at the end of the service. She never thought she would end up living in Burnham. It is a small world isn't it.

Marian Foster on behalf of the Stewards Team.



# BREAN

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

So it is harvest time again. Our September service, shared with our Anglican friends, this time at St Bridget's, was a happy Harvest occasion in a well decorated church in which our ladies shared in the arrangements. Our members noted with pleasure that at communion we did not have to partake of wafers for the bread, but that the baked harvest loaf itself was used for this purpose. And, as Stanley said, it was a good job the vicar tore off a chunk of it to be blessed, otherwise he would have finished up by eating a whole lot more than he had bargained for!

Our own Harvest service is on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Again, the Anglicans will be with us, and again our Harvest lunch will be consumed after the service somewhere around 12noon. The ladies from both churches who prepare such delicacies are repeating last year's innovation by cooking a series of casseroles for our enjoyment rather than the traditional salads of previous occasions. We shall be pleased to welcome members from the Link (and others) to our meal but please let Judy or one of the stewards know so that we can cater for everyone. No stipulated charge just that we ask people to contribute a few pounds for expenses and a donation to a charity.

John Trebble will be taking the service this year. He and Linda completed their move to Brean earlier in September and are now within walking distance of the church. So welcome to you both. Linda grew up in Berrow so it is almost like coming home for her. We were pleased (at least I was very pleased!) that Linda has taken on the post of Circuit Meeting Secretary and started her duties in September. Hope it all goes well Linda.

Congratulations to Stanley and Joyce who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in September. They were in Loughborough on the day in question undertaking cat-sitting duties while their son and family visited family in Australia. Well done to West Huntspill church who organised a surprise lunch of belated celebration for them both when Joyce was preaching there

on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Stanley and Joyce have both taken a keen interest in the church there and Stanley still takes a regular ‘house group’ in the church.

Congratulations (if that is the right word) too to Steve Bennett who has been appointed as Deputy Chairman of the Bristol District. Steve was asked to take on the role during the recent Sabbatical of the Chairman and is now in the job permanently.

Now then, does that mean we get our District assessment reduced???

Our regular summer visitors are now slowly disappearing which is a shame. We expect it to happen during September though our attendances kept up pretty well at around 20 most weeks (22 plus a dog on the 16<sup>th</sup>). So, to all our visitors, farewell, have a good winter and we look forward to meeting up again next year; it has been a joy to have you around.

We are pleased that Brean Parish Council will be holding their monthly Council meeting in our church on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October. This must mean that it is Cowboy and Western week in Brean and the Village Hall is fully booked. The PC meetings were always held in the Methodist Church Hall before the Village Hall was built so it is good to feel that, as in other years, the Council feel happy to use our premises when needed.

All our services in October are at 10.30am in our own church, including our Harvest Festival service on 14<sup>th</sup>.

*Harvey Allen*



# WEST HUNTSPILL



**Our October Coffee Morning  
Will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**10am -12md**

**Table top sales**

**Free Coffee, tea and cakes**

**Proceeds for West Huntspill  
School**

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## BRENT KNOLL

**([www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com))**

**Minister Revd. Steve Bennett**

Last month I promised to let you have details of the monies raised for charity from our August coffee mornings. The four charities which benefitted from the generosity of our Circuit and village friends were: RNLI - £137.50; Weston Hospice - £113; All We Can - £158; and MS - £136.15. Thank you all, once again, for your contributions.

We all enjoyed a wonderful Harvest Festival here last month. A big thank you goes out to all who decorated the church with fresh produce and flowers - it looked simply beautiful. And we would like to say thank you too to Chris Seagers from Cheddar Valley Strawberries who kindly donated a box of fruit and vegetables for us which, with other perishable goods, were raised monies for the Food Bank. Those fresh goods which weren't purchased were sent to St Andrews in Bournville where they were put to good use at the Healthy Living Centre. All non-perishable donations were given to the Burnham Food Bank. After a really uplifting service of thanksgiving led by Rev Jim



McKnight, we all enjoyed a shared lunch of fresh homemade soups and desserts and left feeling even more thankful (as well as full up!) - particularly for the accomplished chefs and bakers we have in our congregation who gave so generously of their time in feeding us all.

Our church will continue to open on the first Monday of each month (Monday 8th this month) between 8.45am and 10.30am for all who would like to come in for a quiet time of prayer and meditation. There will be someone available if you would like to have someone to pray with you or if you would just like to have a quiet chat in the school room over a cup of coffee. Please do feel free to just pop in as it seems that in this busy world of ours, times of peace and of quiet are becoming increasingly more difficult to come by and we all need moments to ourselves where we take time out to enjoy those much needed moments of peace.

On the subject of enjoying moments of quiet and peace, I noticed in last month's Link Magazine that there was a notice regarding the Julian services held in St Andrew's Church in Burnham. These services are held on the third Monday of each month at 10am. Three of us from Brent Knoll Methodist Church regularly attend these services and highly recommend them. They begin with a short meditation and then we spend between 20-30 minutes in silent contemplation - enjoying this quiet time spent with God. This short service is followed by coffee and cake.

October, of course, marks the start of our shared Link services and we look forward to visiting our friends in Brean on Sunday 21st October.

Well we're now firmly into the Autumn season and this beautiful County of ours really does come into its best, doesn't it. So from all of us at Brent Knoll, we wish you all the best this season has to offer.

With every blessing from us all

*Rosemary Krull*



# EAST BRENT

As I come to write for the “LINK” I think of the poem which begins Season of Mists & Mellow Fruitfulness. Not in our neck of the woods this week. We have had howling winds and pouring rain taking us into the Autumn but don't be too downhearted for the weather forecasters have promised us sunshine during the coming week. I hope by the time you read this you will have enjoyed some of this sunshine.

Weather plays an important part in the contents of the Harvest Festival season and it shows at the collection of harvest Gifts, vegetables are becoming scarcer I was told at the nursery & greengrocers last week Harvest Festival is always much enjoyed by Church goers and perhaps by some more Church goers who appear on special occasions.

We were delighted to have a couple of ladies, who were on holiday in the area come to join us at Worship. We all enjoyed coffee and biscuits after the service.

Next Sunday we have an O.A, Sunday We pray and hope that we have it all organised. We are gradually getting back into Winter Session mode.

The Link Villages Fellowship have begun with a Dedication Service taken by the Rev. Margaret. She gave us a very interesting talk on Mother Julian of Norwich. Several members commented that they were thankful to her for we were very ignorant about the lady of long ago.

We look forward to next month Link services when we meet at Brean and renew Link Fellowships with people we don't see often.

The friends at East Brent wish you success in you winter sessions in whatever you attempt and try out.

Evelyn M.J. Tucker



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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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**The Deadline for the  
NOVEMBER 2018 LINK is  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

**LINK ORDER FORM**

**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 £6.50 per annum.**

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