
THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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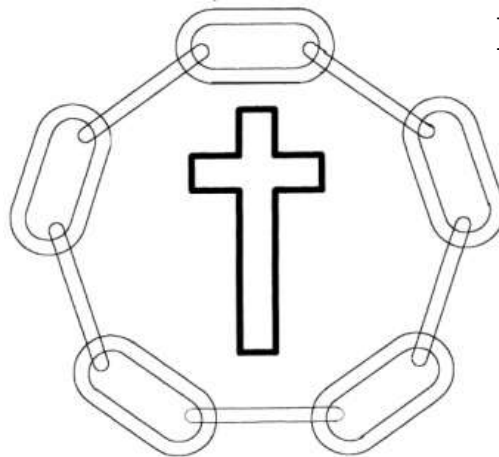
BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



WEST HUNTSPILL



EAST BRENT



BURNHAM ON SEA

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends

When was the last time you switched on the news and heard the announcer say "All is well"?

I suspect like me, this is not a headline you will be able to remember. There always seems to be something wrong with the world, with society, with relationships. Even the cricket has not been altogether good news this summer (although sitting here before the end of the Ashes Test matches, I hope these words are not prophetic!). Where has it all gone wrong?

This short letter is not long enough to begin to explore this question in depth. But as I look at the world and its problems and issues, I remember the words of Genesis 1: 31

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. (NRSV)

Whether you believe the Genesis account of creation or not does not really matter. What matters are the undisputable facts that out of the inert stuff of the universe, a pretty blue planet grew which, orbiting the sun at just the right distance, produced and sustained water and became full of life. I believe that this was no coincidence and that God created this world of infinite beauty and wonder, a world rich in resources and self-sustaining, a good world. However, somewhere between then and now the intervention of humankind (themselves part of the 'goodness' of that making) have not honoured their home. This is made even worse in Genesis because Adam and Eve were charged with stewardship of this world.

In September many of our churches will be celebrating some of the 'good news' of creation, in the thanksgiving for the harvest and fruitful provision of another year. Yet it is also a time to reflect on the state of the world and our own involvement in it. I read the other day that the world had reached a tipping point, the day when the use of resources overtook the ability of the world to regenerate and replenish them. Each of us have a responsibility here. We can no longer stand by and say we do not know what is happening. Environmentalists tell us about the effects of modern living on the

world, and we now have informed choices and decisions to make. Young people, including in the Methodist Church, remind us of our responsibility to their generation and beyond.

As we declare that 'All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above' let us heed the words of warning, and do something, however small, for this beautiful, wonderful, good world.

Steve



Deaths

Roger Course - Funeral at Brean on 12th August - See Brean report

Di Harris-Bryant - Funeral at East Brent - See East Brent report



Calendar

AUGUST

Sat 24th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sat 24th 10.30 B/K Coffee Morning at Brent Knoll
Sat 31st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

SEPTEMBER

Sun 1st 4.00pm BR Open Air Songs of Praise at Brean.
Mon 2nd 2.30pm B/K Ecumenical Time of Fellowship
Sat 7th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning for Church Funds by the Wednesday Group
Tue 10th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship
Wed 11th 12.30pm B/H Church - Lunch Tickets - Dorothy
Sat 14th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sat 14th 4.00 - 6.00 B/H Messy Church at Burnham
Sun 15th 10.30am B/K Harvest Festival at Brent Knoll
Rev Steve
Sat 21st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Burnham Hospital Coffee Morning
Sun 22nd **LAST DAY FOR THE OCTOBER LINK**
Sun 22nd. 10.30am E/B Harvest Service - Rev Steve
Sun 22nd 11.00am W/H Harvest Service - Deacon Gary Hoare
Sun 22nd 5.00pm W/H Harvest Service - Rev Steve
Sat 28th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

OCTOBER

Sat	5th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H Coffee Morning for Church Funds by the Stewards
Sat	12th	10.00 - 12.00	B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning
Sat	12th	4.00 - 6.00	B/H Messy Church at Burnham
Sun	20 th	LAST DAY FOR THE NOVEMBER LINK	



CHURCHES TOGETHER APEX PARK PLAY DAY 2019

Apex Park Play Day 2019 started under dark skies, with rain forecast for most of the day.

Never the less supporters of CTHB, led on this occasion by Rev Marion Hance & Curate Dan Crouch had planned for the event and the suggestion was made to use 5 stories from OPEN THE BOOK, with Burnham Methodist Church choosing “A Tale of Two Houses”. We were to start at 10.15 & every hour thereafter a different story would be told, a “drama” performed (I use the term loosely - RADA need never fear) and a simple craft activity organised.

Our team of 6 duly arrived with all the necessary props, including the cast - Ann with her hard hat & Bob the Builder tool box, Barbara with various instruments, word searches and her hand crafted houses on lolly sticks & myself with a Peter Rabbit watering can and plastic trowel.

At this point I should also mention Jackie who offered her expertise in the craft department and Martin and Peter for being our unofficial backstage crew of 2. So at 10.15 promptly, after the “actors” got dressed, with a small, but select audience our production began. Barbara announced, “Let’s OPEN THE BOOK at “A Tale of Two Houses” - see if you can work out what Jesus is saying here”. The song the wise man built his house upon the rock” obviously had to be sung several times & audience participations with musical instruments requested before Barbara, Ann & I slipped seamlessly (almost) into our roles as Jesus, Simeon & Farid. after repeating our

performance 3 times in the hour, we had gained in confidence and engaged with several children and their families through our story of “A Tale of Two Houses”, and concluded that sensible Simeon was like a person who listens to the wise words of Jesus and trusts them. That person builds a good strong life for themselves - just like the good strong house.

The rain did eventually come down, but it was great fun and a golden opportunity for Churches Together to be present “where the people are” with 5000 to 6000 people in Apex Park that day - it really isn't an option for us not to be there in 2020!

Sandra Nelson

Burnham Methodist Church





Messy Church is back from its hols and will be celebrating HARVEST!

Date – Saturday 14th September 2019

Time – 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Place – Burnham on Sea Methodist Church



**There will be:
craft activities, games,
worship and tea.**

All ages* are welcome

*Children must be accompanied by an adult

Linda & David Patient 01278 789000

EAST BRENT

Well not a lot goes on in August as most things close for the six weeks of school holidays.

We did have a funeral at East Brent, that of Di Harris-Bryant who lived in East Brent and helped in the Sunday School in the 1980's.

The new Methodist Year is upon us and we all have to find extra funds for the Circuit Assessment increase which becomes very much harder with such few members not only in our Church but in the Circuit.

At East Brent our after-Church coffee and chat can be so refreshing especially when talk ranges from a sow having 19 piglet's, vintage cars and what will happen if the grass under solar panel farms catches fire. September will see the restart of the Link Fellowship in the hall and on the 22nd September is our Harvest which will be taken by Revd. Steve.

Gordon Legg

BURNHAM.

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

STEWARDS COLUMN

As I sit and write this it is pouring with rain and blowing a gale outside, but 2 weeks ago we were in the middle of a heatwave - what would we talk about if we didn't have weather! Nevertheless, Burnham has been packed with visitors and trying to find a parking space has been a 'nightmare', but the businesses that rely on the tourists will be delighted.

September is, of course, the beginning of the Methodist Church year and we are looking ahead to the next important celebration – *HARVEST*, and the choir has already started practising for this special service of thanksgiving. At this time we all sing “All good gifts around us are sent from Heaven above; then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all His Love” and though sometimes we complain we do have plenty to thank God for in this country of ours.

As well as Harvest here in Burnham we have Messy Church restarting on Saturday 14th at 4pm. We would love to see you for any of our Services or future events, including our weekly Saturday Coffee Mornings or monthly church lunches. Look out for details of other special events in future editions of The Link.

However, at the moment we are still in the holiday season, and to those who plan to go away we trust you will have a good time and a safe journey. May we all look forward to the future with optimism and enthusiasm.

Best wishes

Joan Wilkins



BREAN

www.breanmethodistchurch.org.uk

A sign of old age I suppose but it still seems incredible that the summer is beginning to draw to a close. There have been a lot of people in the area, though the weather has often not been what holidaymakers would have ordered.

The garden took a long time before it gave us much product this year. Sounds like we were not the only ones to admire the vivid red of our runner beans for several weeks before they decided to produce the fruit of what we had bought them for! We have also begun to get more greedy rabbits running around than we would like!

The church has been very pleased to see many of our regular summer visitors returning and joining in things such as our Monday coffee mornings. It has also been nice to see a few from other Link churches come into our midst for coffee; so, thank you for all that.

I guess that the first event on which to report was the John Wesley 'evening' which occupied the afternoon of the 20th July. Mark Topping was excellent as the great man himself and around fifty people crowded our church and listened spellbound to his rendition of various scenes from Wesley's life. Refreshments were excellent, soft drinks and ice cream at 'half time' and then a full cream tea afterwards. A wonderful spirit and a recognition that, if we raise our vision high enough, we can accomplish many things.

The next day we had no appointed preacher, so we combined our talents to have an informal service around brother Charles Wesley's hymns. Also appreciated, I think.

One or two circuit groups have also used the church for meetings and other gatherings, so the church was used during the period other than on Sundays.

The Course family decided to use our church for the funeral service on 12th August, of their father, Roger. He had been a

stalwart of the church at the time we arrived in 1975, and remained so until the early 1980s when his change of job eventually meant that he and Jean, and family moved first to Wellington and then, in retirement to Dawlish where daughter, Alison and her husband, ran a butcher's business. The other daughter, Linda, is now in the United States and sons Jonathan and Ian live in Burnham still. Roger was not only fully involved in the life of our church but was also regular at Burnham especially in the evening where he sang in the choir. He was also Circuit Meeting Secretary for a short while before his move to Wellington.

Because Steve was away, Stanley Pipet stepped in to take the service in conjunction with the Dawlish Methodist minister Rev Catherine Wagstaff and they both dealt with it very well. Being held on a Monday it followed our coffee morning which was extended for the occasion and many of the early arrivals from Devon were very glad of tea or coffee after their journeys. Refreshments were also served after the funeral and were much appreciated by the 60 or so people who attended. A memorial service for Roger was due to be held in Dawlish, a day or so later.

Which all gives me a chance to say, on behalf of our church and those who came, thank you to all those who worked hard to arrange catering and provide facilities for the Wesley celebration and for the funeral of Roger, and indeed for the weekly coffee mornings. They are not only our own congregation but others too who stepped in give us the help that is required.

Now we turn our attention to the new Methodist church year. Right at the start we have our Open-Air Songs of Praise which in previous years was held in August. Four o'clock on September 1st this year. Please come if you can. It should be good fun again to meet together and share in fellowship and worship. And a cup of tea perhaps.

We hope you have all had a satisfying summer and we send our best wishes for the coming months

Harvey Allen

West Huntspill



Our morning service on Sunday July 28th was a real treat. The service was led by Mrs Rosamund Loat, the daughter of David & Barbara Lee. She was accompanied by the young people's group called Randomly Collected, a gospel band of live very talented musicians, (a banjo, two guitars, a drummer and a violinist), who were a real joy to sing along with. We sincerely

hope that we can invite them back, to lead another service and also perhaps, to lead a "Songs of Praise" on the common one Sunday afternoon when the weather is warmer and drier than it is today! A very big Thank You to both Rosamund and the young people of Randomly Collected.

Kay Lloyd



Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Sunday 22nd September

Services at

11am Deacon Gary Hoare

5pm Revd Steve Bennett

**Refreshments and sale of produce
after evening service**



Our September Coffee Morning

Will be on Friday 27th Sept

10am – 12md

**Proceeds for Macmillan Cancer
Support**

BRENT KNOLL

(www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

Minister Rev. Steve Bennett

Happy New Year! As 1st September marks the beginning of the new Methodist Church year, we have decided to do something different here at the Brent Knoll Methodist Church. On the last Sunday of each month, we are going to have an informal time of fellowship together enjoying cake, refreshments, singing and activities. We hope this will be a time where church members and villagers of all ages who may not be able to come to church on a Sunday morning will be able to come and join us at a different time. These times of fellowship will be following the themes of the season and this month, we shall be meeting up on Sunday 29th September at 4pm in the school room to celebrate all things harvest. Do come along and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

We're looking forward to celebrating our traditional harvest festival on Sunday 15th September which will be led by Rev Steve. The church will be decorated with local produce which shall be distributed around various charities in the area following the service. All donated tinned goods will be donated to the Foodbank. The service will be followed up by a shared lunch together.

Margaret Trapp will continue to lead our ecumenical time of fellowship on the first Monday of each month. We shall meet up on Monday 2nd September at 2.30pm in the church. And again, all, of course, are welcome to join us.

A big thank you to all who supported our August coffee mornings. At the time of writing, we have not held them all so I am unable to let you know the amount of monies raised for charity. I will let you know the amounts next month - but a big thank you in advance to all who have helped raise money for these much-needed causes.

In the meantime, it's all change for our young people as they start school, change schools or move up a class. Our thoughts and our prayers are very much with them all at this challenging yet exciting time in their lives.

From all of us at Brent Knoll Methodist Church, we wish you every blessing

Rosemary Krull

Minister and Circuit Superintendent

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www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

<p style="text-align: center;">The Deadline for the OCTOBER 2019 LINK is Sunday 22nd September 2019</p>

LINK ORDER FORM

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Price £3.00 per annum. Inland **Post £6.00** per annum.

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