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# THE LINK

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Methodist Link Churches Magazine

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June 2019 Volume 54. No. 5.

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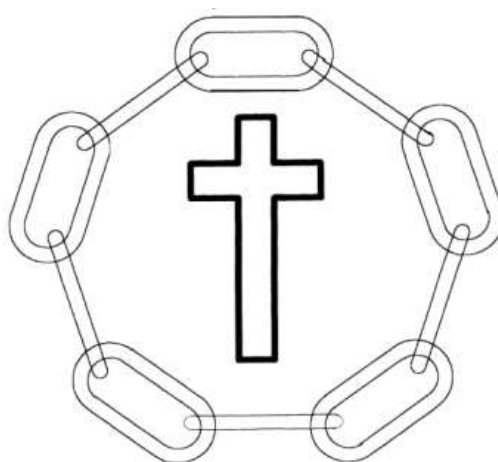
**BREAN**



**BRENT KNOLL**



**WEST HUNTSPILL**



**EAST BRENT**



**BURNHAM ON SEA**

# Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

There is such a lot going on this month! June contains our celebrations of Pentecost; June confronts us once more with the concept of Trinity; June is Bible Month; June is sabbatical.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon disciples and those who heard their message. Although Jesus had breathed the Holy Spirit on the disciples when he first appeared to them after his resurrection (John 20: 22) the account of Pentecost in Acts 2 is universally accepted within Christianity as the time when its full power was unleashed into the lives of hesitant and uncertain Galileans. It was as if they were suddenly plugged into God in a new way.

Trinitarian doctrine was developed to try to explain people's experience of God. Because it is a human idea trying to make sense of an infinite God, it is one that has tested the minds of great theologians across the centuries. So, if you don't fully understand it – don't worry! If you do **fully** understand it – come and explain it to me. The important matter to understand is that speaking of the Trinity does not speak of 3 God's; it is one God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we encounter God in these different ways, as Creator, Saviour and Spirit.

Those of you who remember the last two Bible Months in 2017 & 2018 will remember the Book of James, and our study of Jonah. This is a month when we invite churches and groups to engage directly with scripture through focussing on one book of the Bible. This year we will be studying the letter to the **Colossians**. With the exception of Pentecost Sunday, preachers in our circuit have been asked to lead services in June based on Paul's words to this small church in Asia Minor, to help us understand how we encounter the God of creation, salvation and Spirit within the church today.

At the same time both Rev. Angie and Deacon Gary are both enjoying (hopefully) a time of rest and restoration, study and personal development, as they undertake their sabbaticals. We hold them in our prayers and ask God to give them new insights and a renewed purpose. We look forward to the way in which God will use these things when they return to minister amongst us again.

Although this month will be a busy one, there is much to inspire us and to lift us up.

*Steve*

# Calendar

## MAY

- Sat 25th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Mon 27th 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean in aid of  
Weston Hospicecare  
Tue 28th 2.30pm E/B Link Villages Fellowship - AGM and  
Communion.  
Fri 31st 10.00 - 12.00 W/H Coffee, Cake & Chat at West Huntspill  
Methodist see page 7

## JUNE

- Sat 1st 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning for Church Funds by  
the Wednesday Group  
Sat 1st 10.00-12.30 W/H Sale of Craft Resources at West  
Huntspill  
Mon 3rd 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Wed 5th 2.30 - 4.00 B/H Wednesday Group - Outing  
Sat 8th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sat 8th 4.00 - 6.00 B/H Messy Church at Burnham  
Sun 9th 4.00pm W/H Chapel Anniversary & Circuit Easter  
Offering Service at West Huntspill  
Mon 10th 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Tue 12<sup>th</sup> 12.30 B/H Church Lunch Barbara Williams  
Sat 15th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Burnham Hospital Coffee  
Morning  
Mon 17th 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Fri 21st 10.00-4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist  
Sat 22nd 10.00-4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist  
Sat 22nd 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sun 23rd 2.00-4.00 B/H Flower Festival at Burnham Methodist  
Sun 23rd 10.30 & 5.00 B/H 140th Church Anniversary at Burnham  
Sun 23rd 5.00 B/H Circuit Songs of Praise Service at  
Burnham Rev. Steve Bennett  
**Sun 23rd LAST DAY FOR THE JULY- AUGUST LINK**  
Mon 24th 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Fri 28th 10.00 - 12.00 W/H Coffee, Cake & Chat at West Huntspill  
Methodist see page 7  
Sat 29th 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning

Sun 30<sup>th</sup> 2.00 – 5.00 Open Garden at the home of Dorothy & Cedric May, 6 Brightstowe Road B-o-S TA8 2HW in aid of Weston Hospicecare

## **JULY**

Mon 1st 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Coffee Morning for Church Funds by the Stewards  
Mon 8<sup>th</sup> 10.30 BR Coffee Morning at Brean  
Wed 10<sup>th</sup> 12.30 Church Lunch Dorothy  
Sat 13<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Shoppers Coffee Morning  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 10.00 - 12.00 B/H Friends of Burnham Hospital Coffee Morning  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm BR A Time with John Wesley at Brean see Page 6

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## **Circuit Easter Offering Service.**

On Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup>, West Huntspill have their Chapel Anniversary.

As well as celebrating that, at 4 p.m. they are the host church for the Circuit Easter Offering Service.

The organisation of the offering, and the service is the responsibility of Methodist Women in Britain, following a centuries old tradition of raising money for the work of the Methodist Church Overseas.

This tradition continues with all the money raised through this offering throughout the Connexion going to the work of the World Church.

All are invited to come & share in this celebration of their work.

Joyce Pipet

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# ***FLOWER FESTIVAL***

**21st to 23rd June 2019**

**A Flower Festival is being held in  
Burnham on Sea Methodist Church  
College Street**

*The Church will be open on*

*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> from 10.00am to 4.00pm.*

*Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10.00am to 4.00pm.*

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.*

Refreshments will be available

All Donations will be for

Church Funds

Photos 2004 Flower Festival

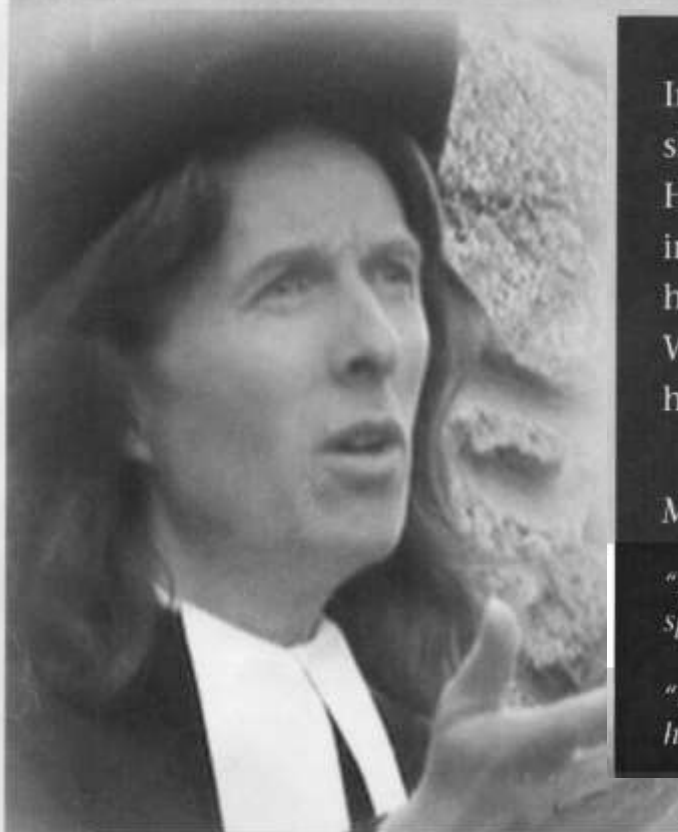


John Wesley is travelling the country once more...

*An Evening with*  
**John Wesley**  
*with Mark Topping as John Wesley*



*"Mark's presentation brings John Wesley to life  
and allows him to speak to our day"* Rev. Dr John Newton



In this inspiring presentation John Wesley shares something of his life and adventures. History is brought to life, providing an insight into what Wesley was like and into his Christian faith. With wit and passion Wesley challenges listeners afresh to join him in what he sees as his mission:

*My business on earth is to do what good I can.*

*"I want to commend this presentation - Wesley speaks to the present age"* Rev. Inderjit Bhogal

*"I felt I stood in the presence of John Wesley - history is brought to life"* Rev. Norman Wallwork

***Brean Methodist Church presents  
a matinee performance  
on Sat 20th July 2019 at 2:30pm***

*Tickets available from Morag Wood on 01278-751660  
or from church members*

*£10 per person including a 'Summer Tea' to follow*



# Flower Festival

Burnham Church will be celebrating 140 years of the building in College Street. To mark this Special Anniversary there is to be a Flower Festival on June 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> On Friday & Saturday the Church will be open from 10.00am till 4.00pm and on Sunday from 2.00pm till 4.00pm.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> is our Church Anniversary Day so there will be a Tea at 4.00pm followed by a Circuit Service at 5.00pm This will take the form of a Songs of Praise service. This is certainly a special time for Burnham.

During the Flower Festival there will be an opportunity to take photographs which will be judged, and the winners exhibited at a later date at the Camera Club Exhibition in the Church. So remember to bring your Camera. There will be lots of Flower arrangements to view.

We look forward to seeing you there

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## West Huntspill



### Our June Coffee Morning

Will be held on

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am - 12md**

Free Coffee, tea, cakes and chat  
Proceeds for Alzheimer's Society



### Sale of Craft Resources

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

**10am to 12.30pm**

West Huntspill Methodist Church

Sellers: £5 per table

(Advanced Bookings )

All enquiries to Christine Thomas

01278256771

# **BRENT KNOLL**

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

Minister Rev. Steve Bennett

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Spring coffee morning where, thanks to your generosity, we raised nearly £90 for church funds. As mentioned in previous issues, as with many older buildings, we are experiencing damp problems in our chapel. We have had a surveyor in to take a close look at our building and we are awaiting his report.

A big thank you also goes out to all those who helped with our church anniversary weekend. It began with our "Praise for Pets" service on the Saturday and ended with Sunday worship followed by a hearty shared lunch of jacket potatoes, various delicious fillings and some wonderful homemade puddings. A huge thank you to all those who took part in, organised, baked, washed up and all the other tasks which made this such a wonderful weekend for us.

Our praise for pets service really was a delight in which we all took part. Ann Hall read such a moving poem and our worship in song was lifted to a whole new level by Rev Jim McKnight providing the musical accompaniment. However, we were very disappointed with the turn out for this service. Despite being advertised throughout the Circuit and the village and through Churches Together, we were saddened to see so few people in attendance. At the beginning of his ministry with us, Rev Steve encouraged our churches to support each other, but this message seems to have got lost somehow. If our churches are to continue then we are very much in need of each other's support and encouragement.

Going forward, we will be holding our annual August coffee mornings in aid of four chosen charities. I will let you have details of those charities in next month's edition of The Link.

In the meantime, from all of us here at Brent Knoll Methodist Church, as the days get longer and the sun gets brighter, we wish to all the joy that Summer brings to this beautiful part of the world.

Rosemary Krull



# EAST BRENT

May has been quite a mixed month on a number of fronts. On the first Sunday of the month we welcomed Michael Pullen who led our worship. What a wonderful service. The service included Holy Communion and, instead of using the traditional words from the order of service, Michael read a hymn at the beginning and we all joined together to read the words of another hymn after we had shared in the sacrament. We all agreed that it was an extremely uplifting and enjoyable service. The only downside – we can't remember the hymns! Michael's wife was with him and Pam Pembro also joined us, but we were saddened to hear that Peter was in hospital again. Our best wishes and prayers went to him and we continue to remember them both in our prayers.

John James arrived on the second Sunday of the month very brightly attired. It was the start of Christian Aid Week and he proceeded to tell us about a village where a lot of the men were employed and paid but all the wives and children were expected to work for nothing. One of the wives was a local minister and agreed with the other wives that this didn't seem fair. She suggested that they should make clothes to sell but the women said that they didn't have the machines to make this viable. Christian Aid provided sewing machines for the women and they are now able to make and sell clothes to earn money for themselves. The shirt, which he was wearing, was made by these women.

This week we welcomed another Michael, Michael Bridges and his wife, and were treated to another service of fellowship and uplifting song.

We were pleased to have Jill and Gordon back from their recent holiday.

We remember John who is suffering a bout of ill health and we continue to remember Joan and Eileen who have been unable to join us for some time now. We do miss them.

Greetings from us here at East Brent and best wishes to you all. Safe journeys to all travellers as the holiday season gets under way.

Margaret Scott

# BURNHAM.

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

## STEWARDS COLUMN

I'm sitting here in my study/office/spare bedroom/ repository room for all things I prefer not to have cluttering up my living room, and I'm thinking that my life is a bit like that. I may seem organised at times but my head contains all sorts of stuff, just behind my conscious thoughts that poke through annoyingly just when I'm thinking and dealing with something. So, I'm sitting here looking at my computer screen knowing that this column won't write itself and I'm thinking about my garden – about to become a woodland glade, well a few trees and grass rather than lots of plants that I'm not really able to manage. I'm also thinking of the wonderful Praise for Pets Service at Brent Knoll Methodist Church I went to this morning with my dog boss Jasper this morning. I can report that he was reasonably well behaved although after being the only pet in the church for a short time, he became rather cross when two more dogs appeared but once he had expressed his displeasure at them invading his personal space he turned his back and settled quite nicely. I do enjoy the Pet Service and being able to thank God for the company of our furry, feathered, or swimming friends with other people is a blessing.

Gosh! My back of the brain thoughts have turned into a paragraph. How did that happen? (Oh, I forgot to mention the amazing biscuits and lemon drizzle cake made by Carol for our enjoyment after the service. Thank you, Carol, – much appreciated.)

This week has been Christian Aid Week and some of us have done an hour with collection buckets and rather snazzy tabards at B & M this week. I've done it several times before but felt that this time the overall response was lower than in previous years. We on duty with our bright red buckets seemed to be invisible to far more shoppers this year. I wish I knew why!

Messy Church is doing well, and we have some new and very enthusiastic volunteers to be part of the planning team providing ideas and resources for the activities. We realise that some of our Messy Church children are getting older and may need some different types of activities and I will be taking some time out at our next session in June (8<sup>th</sup>) to spend a few minutes with the older ones to talk about what they

get from messy church and how we can possibly make it more appropriate for them – giving them ownership to a degree of what they do.

The U3A Concert Party gave us a concert in church on 17<sup>th</sup> May. Most of the proceeds will go to Christian Aid and Burnham Church funds. It was well attended we've had lots of positive comments from members of the audience. I did rather spoil the occasion by falling off the platform in the final rousing song, nearly taking the keyboard with me. I would like to thank the gentleman who hauled me up from the floor after the song had resumed and then finally finished. I don't know who you are but I am very grateful. To those who were concerned – no lasting damage done except that I can't stop laughing about it.

On a very different note we have sadly had to say goodbye to two of our most loved members. Firstly, we lost Jane Dichler – Jane had been unwell but still her passing was a shock. Many of us attended her funeral service in church. And then not long after that we were deeply saddened to learn of the very sudden death of our dear friend Doris Clapp. The family held a Thanksgiving Service for her life at Burnham Church on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. The church was full – and the service was opened by seven members of Doris's family playing various musical instruments including violin, accordion, concertina and others – it was a joy to listen to. A great tribute to Doris. We do miss her.

Future events – the Flower Festival in Burnham Church - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The 23<sup>rd</sup> June is also the 140<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary. Rev. Steve will be taking that service and in the evening at 5pm there will be a Songs of Praise Circuit Service to which all are welcome. Do come!

Have you succumbed to the cough/feeling awful/ wheezy chest etc. virus currently doing the rounds? Lots of us here in Burnham have fallen victim to this lowering condition. If you have, I hope you make a speedy recovery. To anybody who is unwell for whatever reason or awaiting test results or hospital appointments we wish you well. Our thoughts and prayers are with John and Jean Le Sueur who are both in Burnham Memorial Hospital at the moment

Ann Hall

# BREAN

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

The wedding of the year took place in early May. When Vicky and Adam announced (about eighteen months ago, I think) that they were getting married in our church, it seemed such a long way off. Time went by and occasional reference was made, but when it became clear that the event was only a couple of weeks away, it was a shock. Where had that time gone?

It was a lovely day with warm sunshine and the church was full, with thirty or forty people in the schoolroom supplementing a full church area. The church was nicely decorated, the ladies resplendent in their wedding finery, and Steve conducted a service of gentle informality, in keeping with the occasion. And the Coastline Singers gave us a pleasant rendition of songs while the register was being signed. The happy couple, who had been friends from schooldays, were given a rousing send off. We all wish them well for their future together.

After all that, there seems little to report. A steady stream of visitors has boosted our congregation on some weeks, we coped well with the Local Arrangements date on the Plan (we took up Jimmy's suggestion of devoting the service to prayer, each one bringing his or her prayer as a contribution), and our coffee morning continues to give a welcome and chatty break to Mondays. On one Sunday at coffee after service where we all sit around the same table (or set of tables joined up), there were 17 of us and I counted 6 separate conversations all going on at the same time with people joining in different groups as the occasion demanded; a glorious and friendly atmosphere as it should be.

On 27<sup>th</sup> May our Coffee Morning will be raising money for Weston Hospicecare, so if you are able to join us it will be to your enjoyment, our pleasure and the Hospicecare's benefit. Please do so if you can.

We wish Burnham well for their Flower Festival in June. Judy is preparing one of the arrangements, so the date is very firmly down on our calendar.

Tickets are now on sale for Mark Topping's presentation of An Evening with John Wesley at 2.30pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July, with a summer tea to follow. Full details are on our website. This is in celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when Wesley is believed to have visited the village in 1769. Tickets, at £10, are limited, and are available from Morag on 01278 751660, so please do your best to support us. More details are on our website and Facebook page.

Our Services in June are all in our Church at 10.30am, and St Bridget's congregation are due to join us on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

*Harvey Allen*

## Minister and Circuit Superintendent

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## Web Sites

Circuit Web site [www.wsmbos.org](http://www.wsmbos.org)  
[www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk)  
[www.breanmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.breanmethodistchurch.org.uk)  
[www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com](http://www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com)

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**The Deadline for the  
JULY - AUGUST 2019 LINK is  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2019**

## LINK ORDER FORM

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