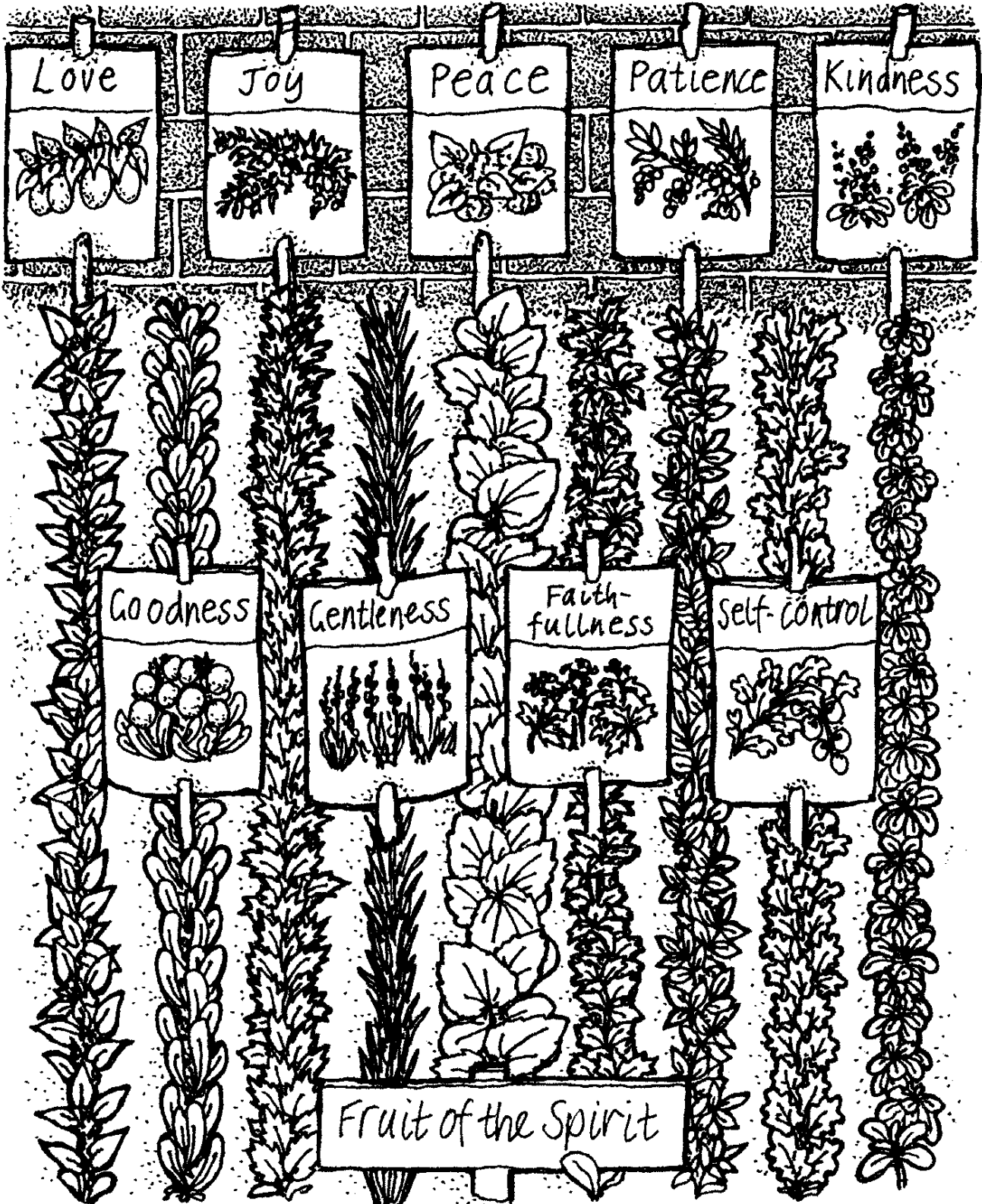




April 2013

Hanham Methodist Church



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Hanham Methodist Church Magazine

The Hanham Methodist Church Magazine is the monthly Magazine of Hanham Methodist Church, in the Bristol & South Gloucestershire Circuit of the Methodist Church. Opinions expressed in some articles are those of the author of the article and do not necessarily reflect Church Policy. All enquiries need to be directed to the minister.

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Articles for the next magazine should be submitted by:- **21 April**

Copies of this magazine are placed on the Church Web-site and therefore the details in all articles will be subject to on line search-engines. Submissions of all articles should therefore highlight any information you do not wish to be accessible to the World Wide Web. Such information will then appear in the paper copies only.

We welcome all people to our church; you don't need to be a member to attend our worship.

Worship at Hanham Methodist Church

Worship at Hanham is traditional Methodist, in an informal and welcoming style. Hymn singing is led by our traditional pipe organ and we have a loop system for those who are hard of hearing. Notices, Service Sheets and the Church Magazine are all available in larger print and Services on CD are available for the housebound.

Everyone will be most welcome at any of our services.

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Word from the Minister

Dear Friends

*But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women came to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body.
(Luke 24 vv 1-3)*

On 4th February earlier this year a team of scientist confirmed that a skeleton that had lain beneath a car park near Grey Friars Church in Leicester was that of King Richard III who was killed at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. The confirmation came after an extensive search for the historic and controversial king's final resting place.

Christian Faith is founded however on a tomb and a resting place where no physical body was found, a discovery that initially led to bewilderment on the part of the women and the disciples but then joy when the risen Jesus met them. In the 1930s Frank Morison, an English journalist wrote a book entitled 'Who Moved The Stone?' In the book Morison described how he himself had started out as a skeptic, but had come finally to a point of faith and belief. He reminded his readers that the evidence of the empty tomb points to the resurrection. The women and the disciples could not have taken the body for soon they would boldly proclaim that Jesus was risen and would lay down their lives for this assertion. The authorities could not have taken the body for they would have quickly produced it to quell this infant movement and the people who came to be called 'Christians'. Thieves could not have taken the body either for the tomb was well guarded. The transformation in the disciples is really only explained by the reality of what is described in the Gospels – Jesus appeared to them risen from the dead.

Yet we also recognize we live by faith and not by sight. We are assured by Jesus own words to Thomas ... 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'. And over 2000 years we have seen the Risen Jesus speak to the hearts of countless men and women and He continues to change and transform lives today. In this way people still meet with Jesus. So let us praise God in these weeks that follow Easter. Our King is not waiting to be found in some ancient hewn rock somewhere near Jerusalem.

He left that cold stone tomb long ago and is alive that we with Him may conquer death, that we with Him and by the help of the Holy Spirit whom he promised to be our Helper, may continue to do the work of his kingdom here on earth, in order that all may receive the Good News and come to have life in all its fullness. In the words of the Nicene Creed a statement of Christian Faith from the 4th Century:

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

The blessings of our Risen and Living King, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ be ever with you and at work through and among us and in our world.

The peace and hope of this Easter Season ...

Andrew

PS. Please make every effort this month to support the Church Spring Fair on April 13th and the Church Flower Festival one week later on the weekend of the 20th and 21st April. Please also invite family, friends and neighbours.

Thank You

Rosemary, John and family would like to thank everyone at HMC for their kind words & prayers on the death of John's Dad at the age of 101.

Special thanks to those who travelled to Ruscombe, Stroud, on a bitterly cold day, to support us for the Thanksgiving Service.

We have all felt embraced by your love throughout.

Rosemary & John Ireland

Sunday's Services

7 Apr	10.45am 4.00pm 6.00pm	Mr Kevin Duffy Messy Church Mr John Hopper	
14 Apr	10.45am 6.00pm	Rev Andrew Prout Food and Fellowship Service	Communion
21 Apr	10.45am 6.00pm	Mrs Glenys Lewis Mrs Veronica Jackson	
28 Apr	10.45am 6.00pm	Mr David King Rev Andrew Prout	Communion

April Dates

7 Apr	Messy Church at 4.00pm
13 Apr	Spring Fair at 10.00am - 12.30pm
14 Apr	Food and Fellowship Evening Service at 6.00pm
20 & 21 Apr	Flower Festival / Music and Flowers
3 May	Annual Church Meeting at 7.00pm

"Not So Simple Lunch"

Again in aid of our charities, this will be held on the weekend of "Music & Flowers", Sunday 21st April at 12.15pm.

This is our traditional 3 course meal, served in pleasant surroundings and pleasant company at a cost of £7 per person. Please put this date in your diary.

Pam Blackmore

The Boss

The bishop was complaining in a staff meeting that he wasn't getting any respect from the diocesan committees and staff. Later that morning he went out and got a small sign that read, "I'm the Boss", and then taped it to his office door. Later that day when he returned from lunch, he found that someone had taped a note to the sign that said. "Your wife called, she wants her sign back!"

Spring Fair; Saturday 13 April

A reminder that our Annual Spring Fair will be held on **Saturday 13 April and will open at 10.00am and close at 12.30pm.** As well as your time we once again ask for your generous gifts of **Cakes** (for the Country Fare and two refreshments outlets), **Recycled Gifts** (those things you have which are in good condition but don't really want but no bric-a-brac please), **Pickles & Jams, CDs and DVDs** (no books or videos please), **Plants & Flowers, Cosmetics, Toys** and anything else the individual stallholders / providers request. We are not able to accept mains electrical goods. Stall holders will be contacted and asked to organize the staffing of their stall. We are also pleased to have people on the day simply available as cover to help and if you are willing to do this please let me know. **We will be setting up the halls and stalls at 2.00pm on Friday 12 April when you can bring your donations and would welcome your help at this time, as well as in the dismantling of the fair once it is finished.** The fair is a means both of outreach into the community and of raising money for the ongoing work of our Church. Please make every effort to attend and also to invite neighbours and friends.

Rev Andrew Prout

Look at it this way

Every evening I turn my troubles over to God. Why not? He's going to be up all night anyway.

Special day for atheists

An atheist complained to a Christian friend, "Christians have their special holidays, such as Christmas and Easter; and Jews celebrate their holidays, such as Passover and Yom Kippur; Muslims have their holidays. In fact, every religion has its holidays. But we atheists," he said, "have no recognized holidays. It's an unfair discrimination."

"Nonsense," his friend replied, "People have observed a special day in your honour for years." "I don't know what you're talking about," the atheist said, "When is this special day?" "April first."

Flower Festival 2013

We invite you, your family and friends to visit our Flower Festival on Saturday, 20 April where our displays will be depicting 'Celebrations'. The Church will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Coffee will be served from 10.00am to 12.00pm with cream teas from 12.00pm to 4.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your continued support.

The Flower Committee

Jesus' Granny

The little boy came home from his first day at Sunday School and casually told his mother that the Sunday school teacher was Jesus' granny. Astonished, his mother asked: "Whatever makes you think that?"

"Well, it's pretty obvious," said her son. "She never stopped talking about him all morning. She told us Jesus is smarter and stronger and better-behaved than anyone else she knows. She even showed us a picture of him."

Church Annual General Meeting

On Friday 3 May we shall be holding the Church Annual General Meeting commencing at 7.00pm. During the meeting we review our Church Life over the last year and elect Church Stewards and Representatives to the Church Council. This year we have one vacancy for the post of Church Steward. There are also up to six vacancies in terms of election of representatives to the Church Council. This is because one person is retiring and five people will have attended in this capacity without a break for more than six years. They must under Methodist Standing Orders make way for any new members who wish to serve. If any of the six spaces remain vacant the existing members can be re-invited. Please give your thought to becoming a Church Steward or sitting on the Church Council as a Representative. If you would like to know more about what is involved please speak to myself or to a Church Steward. **Nominations for Church Steward or Representatives to the Church Council should be given to me in writing not less than seven days in advance of the Meeting with the consent of the person being nominated.** Finally, please could all Church Groups and Committees also note that if they wish to submit an item for inclusion in the Annual Report that this should be submitted by e-mail to me and the Church Secretary Brenda Thompson by **Sunday 21 April**. The Annual General Meeting is an opportunity for all Church Members and Adherents to come together for mutual support and fellowship. It is intended the meeting will last approximately an hour and will then be followed by a Faith Supper. **Both Church Members and adherents are welcome to attend.**

Rev Andrew Prout

Comfort

As the new vicar in the community, I tried to have a friendly word for everybody. And so even while I sat in the reception area of my doctor's surgery, I felt 'on duty'. Just then a woman rolled an elderly man in a wheelchair into the room. As she went to the receptionist's desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. I was thinking I should make small talk with him when a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said companionably, "I know just how stupid you feel. My mum makes me ride in the pushchair, too."

The Prophet – On Love

When love beckons to you, follow him,
Though his ways are hard and steep.
And when his wings enfold you yield to him,
Though the sword hidden among his pinions may wound you.
And when he speaks to you believe in him,
Though his voice may shatter your dreams as the north wind lays waste to
the garden.

When you have love you should not say
'God is in my heart' but rather 'I am in the heart of God'
And think not you can direct the course of love, for love
If it finds you worthy, directs your course.

We have just observed Holy Week where the story of the passion of Jesus demonstrates the cost of love. I am sure that many of us, in a less traumatic way, have paid and perhaps are still paying the cost of love. For it is true as the song says that 'love hurts'. But the alternative is a loveless existence with none of the joys that a loving relationship offers. Someone who had recently been bereaved spoke of the hurt she felt but went on to say that the joy of the relationship she had shared far outweighed the pain of her present experience.

But St. Paul tells us in his great peon of praise to love (1 Cor. 13) that here is the greatest of all God's gift. And as we celebrate Easter we can say with The Prophet that we are in the heart of God

Tim Lansdown

Crossword

Across

1 'The baby in my — leaped for joy' (Luke 1:44) (4) 3 A 'don't know' in matters of faith (8)

9 In the distant past (Jeremiah 2:20) (4,3)

10 Armada (1 Kings 10:22) (5)

11 Where Moses was confronted with the burning bush (Exodus 3:1) (5)

12 Hair colour indicative of skin infection (Leviticus 13:30) (6)

14 'The worries of this life and the — of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful' (Matthew 13:22) (13)

17 Expel (2 Kings 13:23) (6)

19 What Jesus wrapped round his waist when he washed his disciples' feet (John 13:4) (5)

22 The sixth plague to afflict the Egyptians (Exodus 9:9) (5)

23 For nine (anag.) (7)

24 Where there is no time (Psalm 93:2) (8)

25 Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army in the Valley of Elah: 'This day I — the ranks of Israel!' (1 Samuel 17:10) (4)

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				8								
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11						12						
												13
14		15						16				
	17			18				19		20		
21												
22						23						
24								25				

5 An animal's internal edible parts (Leviticus 4:11) (5)

6 Popular 20th-century religious novel by Lloyd C. Douglas, which became a 1953 film starring Richard Burton (3,4)

7 'A — on a hill cannot be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (4)

8 One of the exiles, a descendant of Bebai, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:28) (6)

13 Old Testament hymn-singing (8)

15 'And O what transport of delight from thy pure — floweth' (7)

16 Of felt (anag.) (3,3)

18 'So — the — sets you free, you will be free indeed' (John 8:36) (2,3)

20 Comes between 'bad' and 'worst' (John 5:14) (5)

21 'Neither height nor depth... will be — to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (4)

21 'Neither height nor depth... will be — to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (4)

Down

1 'I will become angry with them and forsake them; I — — my face from them' (Deuteronomy 31:17) (4,4)

2 Usual description of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, Micah, and so on (5)

4 'They cannot see the light of the gospel of the — — — , who is the image of God' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (5,2,6)

Spring Fair

Sudoku

Easy

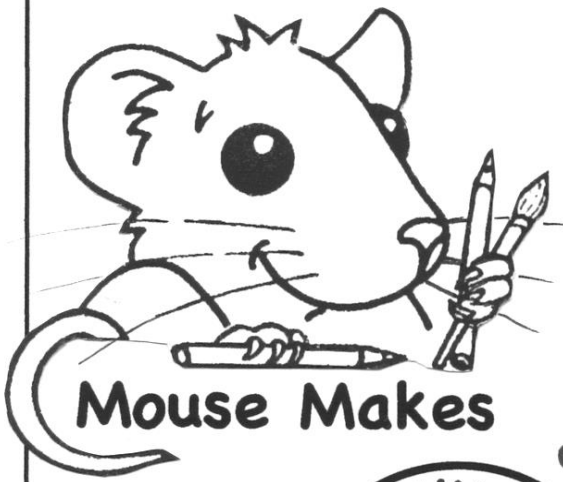
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Intermediate

	7					6		
				7	1			
	3		2			8		9
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4		7			5		8	
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For the Children – Mouse Makes



What is your most valuable treasure?

The bible tells us that the most valuable thing you can ever have is something that can **NEVER** be lost, broken or stolen.

The most **valuable** thing you can have is to be **friends with God** through Jesus.

Read: Matthew 6:19-21

Keep
my words,
treasure up my
commands
Prov 7:1

Do not
store up
treasures
on earth
Matt 6:19

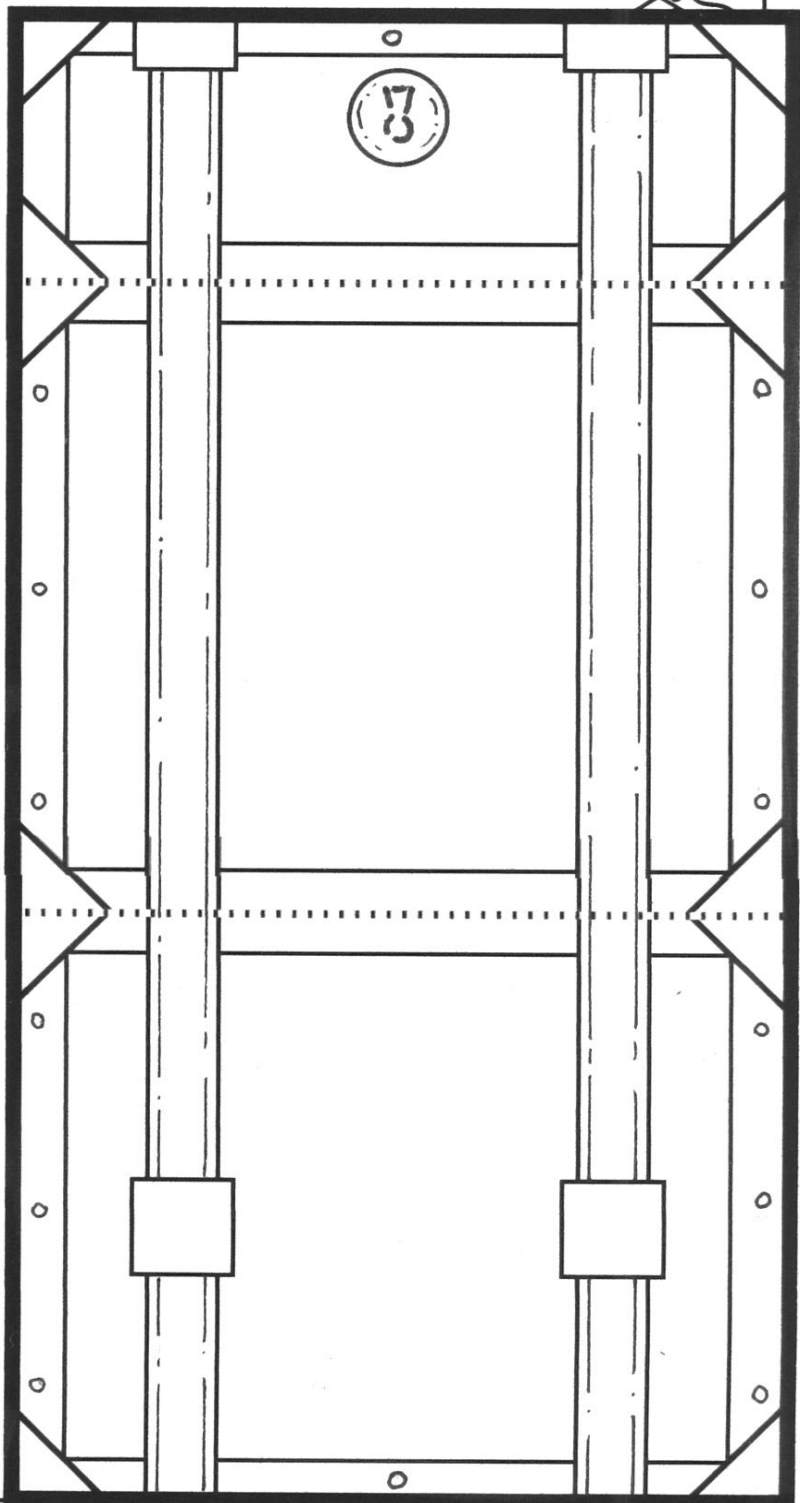
Your
HEART
will be where
your riches are
Matt 6:21

In Christ
are hidden all
the **treasures** of
wisdom and
understanding
Col 2:3

Be
RICH
in good
deeds
1 Tim 6:18

Be
generous
givers
1 Tim 6:18

Cut out these coins. Cut out the treasure box and fold along the dotted lines. Glue the coins inside the box



Signposts

We think of April as the opening of Spring with the glory of daffodils and primroses, or at least this is how I remember as this was often Easter time when on visiting for my mother's birthday we would walk Devon country lanes in the warm Spring sunshine.

But Easter was in March (which I don't think occurs again in my lifetime) and although we seem to have escaped with snow flurries the south coast and much of England to Scotland has been blanketed in heavy snow.

I feel as confused as much of the garden with early buds bitten by frost although some birds seem to be determined to gather twigs and start building nests regardless of surrounding conditions.

We know from the long ago message of Isaiah to the Hebrew people exiled in Babylon that they would be restored to their own country, a message of hope. From the message of Easter, of wrong and death overcome, a message of hope. A message of the love of God.

Sadly in a confused world with so many problems so many seem left without hope, refugees in Syria or in places of war and dispute. In countries of political unrest and many struggling through poverty even in our own country.

In whom can we put our trust?

The Psalmist wrote: PS 33:22

May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

In God, in our friends and family, in all we love we build in hope and endeavour to take that to those who are alone and feel lost and rejected.

Arnold Wheeler

Do You Remember?

Before Hanham Methodist to the time of Hanham High Street and Ebenezer Methodist, to a time when a Stewardship Campaign and dinner was organized.

To the time of Whitsun Parades, children on lorries (no health and safety). Sunday School outings to Bournemouth, redevelopment of Ebenezer church and rebuilding with 'home' help.

So many marriages followed by christenings and a time of celebration. Events of the church calendar, the wonders and magic of Christmas, wonderful stories of Jesus - to Easter – Flower Festivals – Pentecost. So many helpers showing care and love.

The music on organ, drums and saxophone, long before keyboards.

These events during the ministry of:-

1964	Rev Hodgekinson Rev Cornah
1970	Rev Paul Hardy
1975	Rev Tom Smith
1978	Rev Ian White
1986	Rev Graham Thompson
1991	Rev Dilwyn Edwards
1998	Rev Malcolm Richards
2005	Rev Andrew Prout

Can you remember in whose ministry or when or some other time?

Arnold Wheeler

Dates from the New Room

Friday 12 April

1.00pm Holy Communion

1.20pm Mariette Davina 'In Concert'

Friday 19 April

1.00pm Holy Communion

1.20pm 'The Bromley Duo'—Bob Bennett violin & saxophone, and Nick Breeze piano

Saturday 27 April

4.30pm 'Called to be Saints'—West Gallery Singers in Concert

Sunday 28 April

4.00pm MWiB 'Easter Offering' Circuit Thanksgiving Service

Friday 3 May

1.00pm Holy Communion

1.20pm Philip Wilby organ, Gordon Pullin tenor.
Samuel Wesley & the Great Bach Revival
(part of Bristol Organ Festival Week)

18 – 24 May - Wesley Week

Saturday 18 May

The Kentucky Wesleyan University Choir

Sunday 19 May (Aldersgate)

3.00pm Sunday 'Wesley Walk' with David Weeks

Tuesday 21 May (Charles Wesley's 'Heart Warming')

1.00pm Celebrating Charles Wesley's Hymns

Friday 24 May (John Wesley's 'Heart Warming')

1.00pm Full Service of Holy Communion

Celebrant: David Weeks (The New Room Chaplain)

Speaker: Gary Best (The New Room Warden)

on 'Charles Wesley's Hymns

(May 24 - 26: Possible group visit to the Charles & Sally Wesley's Wedding Anniversary Celebrations at Garth House & Llanleonfel Church). For further details please contact the Office on 0117 926 4740.

Have you ever wondered....

- ❖ Are clones people two?
- ❖ Why is it called lipstick if you can still move your lips?
- ❖ Why is it that night falls, but day breaks?
- ❖ Why is it that no word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple?
- ❖ Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's a cargo?

The best position for prayer

Three theologians at a conference centre sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one, and backed up his claim by quoting a number of texts on humility in Greek.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." He quoted a few texts on praise in Latin.

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor." He quoted a few texts on penitence in Hebrew.

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted, "the best prayin' I ever did was in English, hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

The Cup

Young Charlie enjoyed Bible stories. On Sunday mornings he was a member of a children's group and heard how God was involved with people such as Moses, Joshua and King David. Charlie also liked learning about Jesus. One Sunday, his class finished slightly earlier than all the others. Charlie was the first child to leave the room and went into the main worship area, to wait for the closing songs and prayers with all the children and teachers. On his way to sit in a pew, he passed a table which was usually bare except for a hymn book and a Bible. But this time the table was covered with a white cloth, and one of the teachers was positioning a large silver cup alongside a plateful of bread.

Charlie didn't realise that this was a Communion Table. He saw the cup and thought a church sports team had won a prize in a recent competition. As far as he was concerned this chalice was like the football trophy given to winners of a football tournament. So, in his innocence Charlie asked, "Who's won?"

The reply came immediately from the elderly teacher "Christ has won!" The answer came as a surprise. It was not what he had expected.

During the closing session, Charlie watched and listened as the bread and wine were described as symbols for the body and blood of Jesus. It was a lot to understand, but as Charlie grew up within the church family, that moment became clearer. Jesus had indeed won! He had died, arose from the grave and was now victorious over death.

The Cup we use at Communion is a reminder that Jesus died for our sins. He came to give us Life in all its fullness. Jesus has won the fight over evil and lives for evermore.

Jesus said: "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do so in memory of me." (1 Corinthians 11:25)

Don't stop fidgeting

Fidgeting could help prolong your life. Watching television or working on computers for hours on end can actually shorten your lifespan and raise the risk of conditions like heart disease and stroke. Experts advise that we break up our 'sitting time' throughout the day by walking around to stretch our legs, or bounce on our heels, or stand and sway and wiggle our hips (though perhaps not all at once, in the middle of the office!). Try and get more than 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise a week. So advises medical experts from the NHS, who recommend you move about every half hour or so.

All in the month of April

It was....

75 years ago:- on 2nd April 1938 that the Oxford v Cambridge University Boat Race was broadcast on television for the first time.

30 years ago:- on 21st April 1983 that one pound coins went into circulation in England and Wales.

20 years ago:- on 24th April 1993 that an IRA truck bomb exploded in the Bishopsgate financial district of London, killing one person and injuring 44. It was the last major IRA bombing in England.

Also 20 years ago:- on 29th April 1993 that the Queen announced that Buckingham Palace would be open to the public for the first time, to raise funds to repair fire damage at Windsor Castle.

Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Womb. 3, Agnostic. 9, Long ago. 10, Fleet. 11, Horeb. 12, Yellow. 14, Deceitfulness. 17, Banish. 19, Towel. 22, Boils. 23, Inferno. 24, Eternity. 25, Defy.

DOWN: 1, Will hide. 2, Minor. 4, Glory of Christ. 5, Offal. 6, The Robe. 7, City. 8, Zabbai. 13, Psalmody. 15, Chalice. 16, Let off. 18, If son. 20, Worse. 21, Able.

Pause for Thought

An Easter Hymn

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing;
His cross stands empty to the sky:
Let streets and homes with praises ring;
His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
To distant years in Palestine,
He comes to claim the here and now,
And conquer every place and time.

Not throned above, remotely high,
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,
But daily, in the midst of life,
Our Saviour with the Father reigns.

In every insult, rift and war,
Where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
He suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives, though ever crucified.

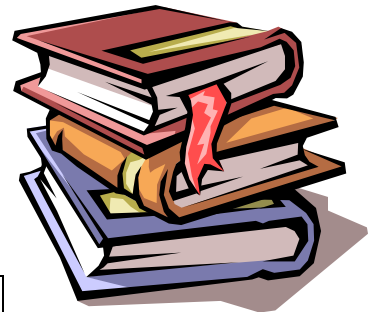
Christ is alive! His spirit burns
Through this and every future age,
Till all creation lives and learns
His joy, his justice, love and praise.

Brian A. Wren (b 1939)

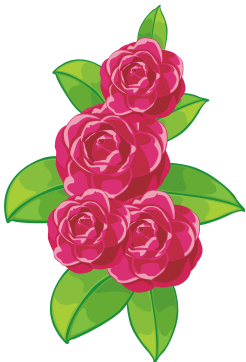
Rotas (Doors & Books and Flowers)



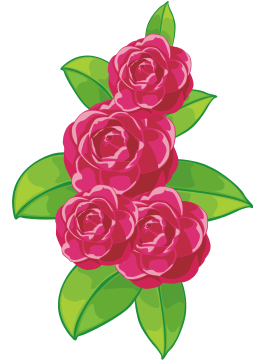
Doors and Books



7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
M Frost V Frost	M Howe N Howe	P Blackmore J Green	A Sagar M Sagar
Stamford Griffen	A Wheeler H Wheeler	T Lansdown A Angell	A Houlden M Houlden



Rotas – Flowers



April	7 th	14 th	21 st	28 th
Church	Richard Needs	Phil Bond	Flower Festival	Free
War Memorial	Rosemary Ireland	Phil Bond	Flower Festival	Lilian Curnock

Weekly Activities

You are invited to share in our services and activities as listed below.

If you would like an introduction to any of the groups / activities please contact the Minister or a Church Steward.

Details of further events inside.

Sunday

10.45am Morning Worship, Youth Church & Creche
4.00pm Messy Church (First Sunday of each month)
6.00pm Evening Worship

Monday

10.00am – 3.00pm Friendly Table
2.30pm Bright Hour
Evening Brownies, Guides & Rangers
Table Tennis

Tuesday

7.30pm Girl's Night In
(First Tuesday of the month, ask about venue)

Wednesday

1.30pm Mums & Toddlers
Evening Rainbows
7.30pm Wives Group (Alternate weeks)
Men's Curry Club (As announced)

Thursday

2.15pm Shawl Ministry (Last Thursday of the month)
Evening Boy's Brigade (Anchors, Juniors, Company & Seniors)
Brownies

Friday

7.30pm Y's Men (Third Friday of the month)
Men's Curry Club (As announced)

Saturday

9.30am Prayer Meeting (Second & Fourth Saturday of the month)
Coffee Morning