



September 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 September**

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.

Inside this issue:

Word from the Minister.....	4
Messy Church	6
'Singing the Faith'	7
Sunday Services.....	8
September Dates	8
Harvest Weekend.....	9
Mission Committee – Musical Evening.....	9
Y Not Pamper Yourself Evening - Wednesday 23rd October	9
Crossword	10
Sudoku.....	11
The Prophet.....	12
Signposts.....	13
Crossword Answers	13
Pause for Thought	14
Rotas (Doors and Books & Flowers)	15
Weekly Activities	16

Word from the Minister

Dear Friends...

'I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.'

As I write this article it is exactly 50 years to the day the Rev Dr. Martin Luther King delivered his '**I have a dream**' speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington to an estimated crowd of 250,000 people. It is among one of the most famous speeches of the 20th Century, a speech that marked a turning point in the civil rights movement in the USA and one that still resonates in our world today. What MLK did was look forward to a time when his dream would be realized and he invited his hearers to work unceasingly until such a dream became a reality. The journey would start here and now and only when it became a reality would it become complete.

At the 40th Greenbelt Festival held at the Cheltenham Racecourse over the August Bank Holiday 20,000 Christian people gathered over four days to celebrate the arts and to think about their faith. Claire Angell our senior steward was in attendance with two of our young people and camped with other good friends we enjoyed the festival. There was music and comedy, puppetry and theatre as well as many excellent talks on contemporary themes offering a space to think about the world and ones faith. A highlight for me was attending a seminar where a Palestinian who had spent two years in an Israeli jail at the age of 14 (a common experience for many Palestinians of his age), and a Jew, a former member of the Israeli army who had participated in a military incursion into Lebanon spoke of their experiences and their journey towards putting down their arms and pursuing a peaceful solution where both Palestinian and Jew could have a future and a homeland. They were now both members of a movement called '**Combatants for Peace**' a growing movement founded in 2005 which is bringing people together from both sides of the conflict. The two men sharing the platform had clearly over time developed a deep respect for each other and at the end of their presentation when they embraced it was a sight that moved me deeply. It was an example of MLK's dream being realized today.

The work of course goes on. As Christians with MLK our reference point is Christ's teaching on the Kingdom of God. Jesus spoke of God's kingdom as a place where the values of mercy, justice, respect and acceptance were universally evident. It was Jesus' vision that God's kingdom could be realized here on earth. We therefore seek to see God's kingdom fulfilled today and will not rest until everything falls within its boundaries of love, grace and peace. Such also was John Wesley's vision for society, a society where all would be treated equally and as God's children, where all could come and go in peace with a sense of dignity and worth. Here for your reflection, at a time when many people are resorting to using food banks, is an extract from a letter John Wesley wrote in 1772 to the Lloyd's Evening Post, one which should chime bells with us today, not least as we approach Harvest and distribute the goods to those in need ...

'Why are thousands of people starving, perishing for want, in every part of England? The fact I know; I have seen it with my eyes in every corner of the land. I have known those who could eat a little coarse food every other day ... and such is the case in a land , as it were flowing with milk and honey, abounding with all the necessities, the conveniences, the superfluities of life'

It seems Wesley was upset at the great disparity between the excesses of wealth and the poverty of many which was evident in his time. At the beginning then of a new church year as we look forward to all that we might share and achieve together let us then hold in view that dream which is the Kingdom of God here on earth, and let us ever fervently pray **'thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven'** and in offering such a prayer be willing to play our part and do what we must.

Peace and Blessing

Andrew

PS. From September 1st we welcome into the Circuit three new ministers Rev Richard Barley, Rev Nigel Young and Rev Pete Brazier. Their welcome service will be at Bristol Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday 8th September. I can also confirm that following a process of consultation in the Summer I have indicated to the Circuit that I will be moving on in August of next year after what will then be 9 years as your minister and that the process to appoint my successor will now commence in earnest. I have had to take many things into account in reaching this decision and though it will be difficult to say farewell and no decision such as this is easy I believe on reflection that the time is right for this transition. Throughout

this process of consultation and discernment I have been ably supported by both the Church and Circuit Stewards. Please now hold both them and me in your prayers as we engage in the stationing process which underpins Methodism's itinerant approach to ministry. My successor should be appointed sometime between November and January to commence his or her appointment in September of next year. I shall also find out my new station in this period but please be assured of my complete attention and commitment until I move in just under 12 months time. I take this opportunity to also remind everyone that from January to March of next year I will be on Sabbatical but more about that in the next magazine. **AP**

PPS. I am delighted to report that **David Speirs** who grew up in our Church and is now a member of the Mint Methodist Church in the Exeter, Coast and Country Circuit has completed all the necessary studies and interviews and will be accredited as a Local Preacher at a service of commissioning at the **Mint Methodist Church in Exeter on Friday 20th September at 7.30pm.** Members of Hanham are most welcome to attend and support David on this special occasion when he has also invited me to give the address. It will be a great privilege for me to do this (especially as I myself was accredited as a Local Preacher in what was then the Exeter Circuit) and to represent Hanham at this service given the Church's role in David's Christian formation. **AP**

Messy Church

As communicated through my pastoral letter in August, the Church Council at its most recent meeting on 10th July after due consideration and debate supported unanimously the recommendation from the Worship Committee that beginning this September, rather than have both Messy Church and an Evening Service closely following each other on the first Sunday of the month, that we just hold Messy Church on this first Sunday in the evening encouraging the congregation to join Messy Church for their worship at 4.45pm and the tea that follows, this becoming our act of evening worship on these particular Sundays with the morning service being unaffected. The reason for this decision is threefold. First numbers attending the evening service when we hold Messy Church have been smaller. Secondly it allows opportunity to be more flexible at Messy Church with less pressure of any time constraint. And thirdly and most important it gives an opportunity for all ages and branches of the Church to come together once a month in a manner that use to happen when the Church historically held monthly

morning Parade Services. It was felt by the Church Council it is really important that we seek at this stage to build strong links between both our weekly attendees and our Messy Church families and to create a space where all can come together. **This arrangement will come into effect on the 1st September when (as will be the case on every first Sunday of the month thereafter) there will be no 6.00pm service. Please however do feel free and most encouraged on these particular Sundays to come to the Church at 4.45pm to attend Messy Church worship and the tea that follows.** You may alternatively wish to come earlier at 4.00pm to join in the Messy Church crafts which people of all ages can have a go at and have been known to enjoy. It can be great fun learning about the Bible together from those taking their first steps to those whose steps are frail with years. I look forward to seeing those able to attend as we begin this next step of the journey with Messy Church now entering its 7th year.

Rev Andrew Prout

'Singing the Faith'

As further communicated through my pastoral letter in August, the Church Council held on 10th July supported the purchase of 30 copies of the most recent Methodist Hymn Book published in 2010 **'Singing the Faith'** which will be paid for from the Robert Furber Fund, a fund dedicated to supporting the music life of the Church. This hymn book will now be available alongside 'Hymns and Psalms' for preachers and ministers to use within our worship and services, and alongside **'Hymns and Psalms'** and **'Let's Praise'** it gives us a wonderful breath of hymns and songs both old and new to draw inspiration from. These new books will be dedicated at the morning service on 8th September. I am also delighted to report that subject to the normal processes of appointment the Church Council approved the appointment of Phillip Sherwood as our full time organist for evening services and Eleanor Bakker (subject to confirmation and approval of the Local Preachers Meeting) as an accredited Worship Leader. This has involved a course of training and a sustained period of being involved in a number of services on Eleanor's part and we both congratulate Eleanor and assure her with Phillip of our prayers and support as she moves forward in this particular role and Phillip in his as our evening organist. Subsequent to the sanction of the Local Preachers Meeting a special service to commission Eleanor as a Worship Leader will be arranged.

Rev Andrew Prout

Sunday Services

1 Sep	10.45am 4.00pm	Rev Dr Peter Hatton Messy Church	
8 Sep	10.45am 3.30pm	Rev Andrew Prout Circuit Welcome Service at Bristol Cathedral	Communion
15 Sep	10.45am 6.00pm	Mr David King Mr Wulston Perks	
22 Sep	10.45am 6.00pm	Rev Andrew Prout Rev Josette Crane	Harvest Festival Harvest Festival
29 Sep	10.45am 6.00pm	Mr John Creech Rev Andrew Prout	Communion

September Dates

1 Sep at 4.00pm	Messy Church (No 6.00pm Service this Sunday)
8 Sep at 3.30pm	Welcome Service for New Ministers Bristol Cathedral on College Green (No 6.00pm Service this Sunday)
10 Sep at 7.30pm	Messy Church Planning Meeting
14 Sep at 9.30am	Prayer Meeting
19 Sep at 7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Eden Grove
21 Sep at 10.00am	District Synod at Kingswood School
22 Sep	Harvest Services (Morning Parade Service)
28 Sep at 9.30am	Prayer Meeting

Harvest Weekend

Harvest weekend this year is 20th - 22nd September. On Friday 20th September (am) the Flower Committee will be decorating the church and would be delighted to receive gifts of fruit & vegetables for the display, please bring them to the church. On 22nd September (am) Worship will be led by Rev Andrew Prout and gifts of Fruit, Vegetables, and dry goods will be received during the service. We hope to make up baskets for some of our housebound or elderly members, of your gifts, whilst dry goods will be delivered to Midland Road for their work in the Inner city.

This year we shall be holding a Harvest Lunch at 12.15pm after morning worship, you are all very welcome to attend but please give your name to Pam B for catering purposes. The cost will be £4. Evening Worship will be led by Rev Josette Crane. Please come along & join our celebrations, after a cold, late Spring, yet very hot July, give thanks that the Harvests are almost safely gathered in!

Pam Blackmore

Mission Committee – Musical Evening

Mission Committee are holding a Musical evening 11th October, with Supper, please keep this date in mind, more details of cost & times later.

Pam Blackmore

Y's Men's Club of Hanham

Y Not Pamper Yourself Evening - Wednesday 23rd October

Please come and join us for our Fund Raising Event. We shall have discounted Body Shop Products, Pampered Chef, Handicrafts, Jewellery, Massage, Waxing, Nails, Eyelashes and lots more. Cost of Entry is £3.00 and £1.50 for anyone in full time education. Start time 7.00 pm. There will be a delicious ongoing buffet included. If you wish to come please see Pam Liddiard (0117 967 0910) or any Y's Man.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Pam Liddiard

Crossword

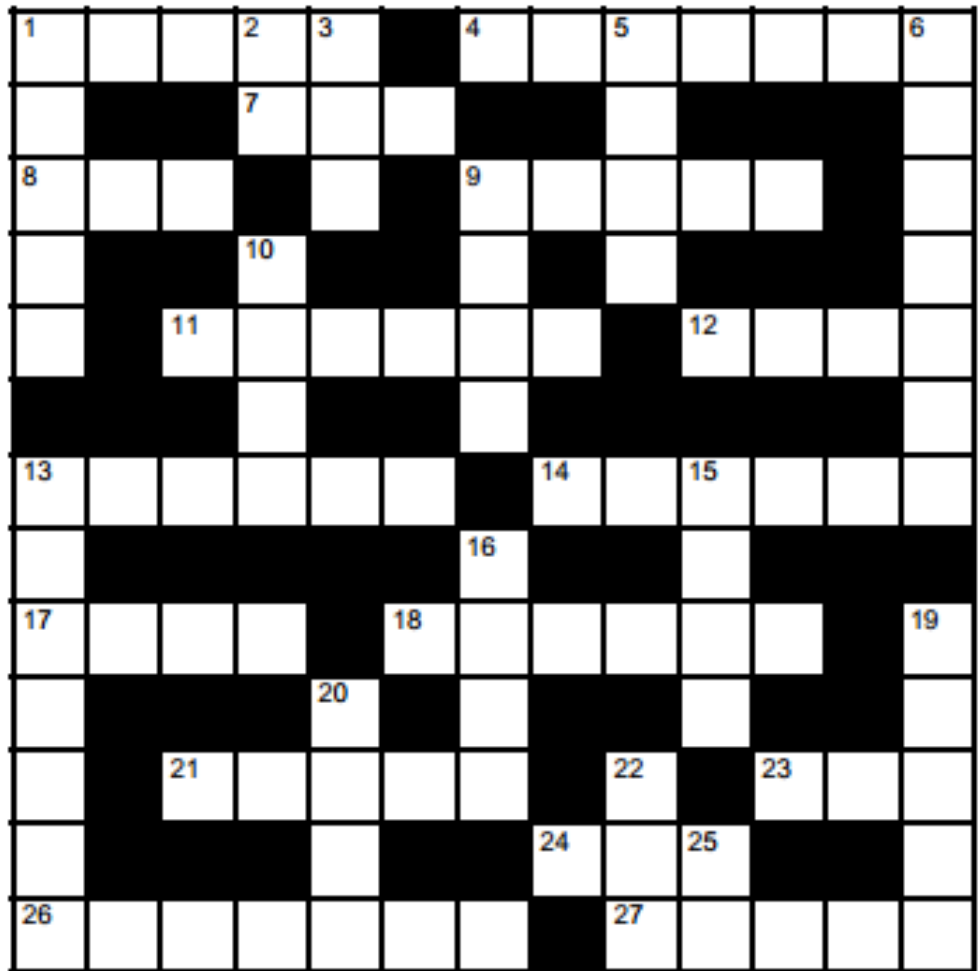
Across

- 1 A book of books (5)
 4 Shortest book in the Old Testament (7)
 7 The number of chapters in Philemon (3)
 8 This testament contains 39 books (3)
 9 Jesus' brother, who wrote a letter (5)
 11 In authority before the kings (6)
 12 His epistle contains one chapter (4)
 13 Successor to Queen Vashti (6)
 14 David wrote many of these, set to music (6)

- 17 Wrote about the restoration of the temple (4)
 18 Originator, writer of a book (6)
 21 Number of letters written by John (5)
 23 Number of chapters in 13A (3)
 24 Galilee, Dead, for example (3)
 26 Paul wrote many of these (7)
 27 He prophesied the birthplace of Jesus (5)

Down

- 1 There are 66 of these (5)
 2 Behold (2)
 3 Revelation comes in this part of the New Testament (3)



- 5 Donation of money to the poor (4)
 6 This letter lists the faithful (7)
 9 He prophesied of the 'day of the Lord' (4)
 10 A faithful Moabitess (4)
 13 He foretold the regathering of Israel in prophecy of dry bones (7)
 15 A prophet who was a herdsman (4)
 16 One of the gospel writers (4)
 19 A prophet, reluctant to go to Nineveh (5)
 20 Adam and Eve ate from this in the garden (4)
 22 The border of a garment (3)
 25 Joshua writes about this city near Bethel (2)

Sudoku

Easy

				8	2			9
5			3	9	1		4	
	9	6			4		1	
	1	4					8	
9			8		7			1
	3					5	7	
	5		9			7	3	
	7		1	6	5			2
2			7	4				

Intermediate

			8			4		3
2					4	8	9	
	9							2
				2	9		1	
	7		6	5				
9							8	
	6	2	7					1
4		3			6			

The Prophet

ON TIME

My soul spoke to me and said 'Do not measure time by saying
"There was yesterday, and there shall be tomorrow"

And ere my soul spoke to me, I imagined the past as an epoch
That never returned, and the future as one that could never be reached.

Now I realise the present moment contains all time
And within it all that can be hoped for done and realised.

Having done the Gromit trail there is no doubt which is my favourite. It is called 'Lodekker' and stands in Lawrence Hill. Why: because it is painted in the colours of the old Bristol Tramways buses and carries their logo. And that brings back happy childhood memories for me of the No.9 and other buses I rode in as a boy.

Our memories are kind to us as they tend to preserve the good times and blot out the less happy times. The danger is we can get stuck in the past.

Walter de la Mere wrote this verse: -

Do diddle di do
Poor Jim Jay
Got stuck fast
In yesterday.

When the present is difficult we tend to reminisce or alternatively we look to the future in the hope that life will improve for us and our loved ones. But we have no certainty of that.

God has given us this day to live. We can use it, waste it, enjoy it or we can kick against it. But unlike the past and the future at least we can have some influence over it. Re-read the last two lines of The Prophet's words.

Tim Lansdown

Signposts



Sometimes it's good for a change, a new holiday experience, new friends or new work opportunities. Especially at this time of year when many young people change schools or await examination results to determine the next step. Ministers in the Methodist church moving to new appointments. Some changes we can control, others come suddenly and are of a different order, illness, accident, stress or family problems. Peculiar how often one problem follows another and at present this seems to have occurred to quite a few in our community.

We are thankful of friends, family and often medical and support services which often we take for granted without fully realising how fortunate we are in this part of the world.

So much of the world seems to be in turmoil either from those wanting power or even from natural flood or earthquake even an exploding volcano.

Also taken for granted is the wonderful world of creation and colour which can be seen each day, the passing butterfly, the flowers on a busy road roundabout or in park or garden.

The coming together of balloon enthusiast from different countries filled our morning skies with shape and colour, although some did come a bit close.

A day can change with a helping hand or a smile and who knows the change that can make to someone who may be more worried than they can show.

Arnold Wheeler

Crossword Answers

Across: 1 Bible, 4 Obadiah, 7 One, 8 Old, 9 James, 11 Judges, 12 Jude, 13 Esther, 14 Psalms, 17 Ezra, 18 Author, 21 Three, 23 Ten, 24 Sea, 26 Letters, 27 Micah

Down: 1 Books, 2 Lo, 3 End, 5 Alms, 6 Hebrews, 9 Joel, 10 Ruth, 13 Ezekiel, 15 Amos, 16 Luke, 19 Jonah, 20 Tree, 22 Hem, 25 AI

Pause for Thought

A Hymn about God's Kingdom

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

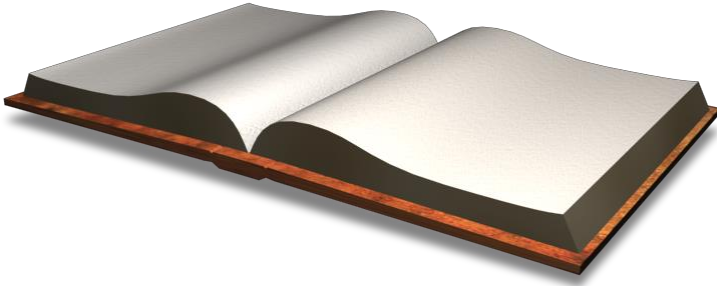
The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed, God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call
And all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Bryan Rees (1911 –83)

Rotas (Doors and Books & Flowers)



Doors and Books

Sep	1 st	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
AM	H Teague B Jones	S Brown J Hurfurt	M Stone M Golding	P Webber J Tippett	M Frost W Frost
PM	H Wheeler A Wheeler	A Houlden M Houlden	A Angell T Lansdown	M Kenway M Kenway	W Stamford B Griffen

Rotas – Flowers



Sep	1 st	8 th	15 th	22 nd	29 th
Church	Roy Skinner	Pam Liddiard	Shirley Goodenough	Harvest	Maureen Stone
War Memorial	Free	Pam Liddiard	Shirley Goodenough	Harvest	Maureen Stone

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