



## Welcome to the magazine of Hanham Methodist Church, a member of the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit.

Our services are open to all, whether or not you are a Church member. Youth Church runs in parallel to our Sunday morning service, and a crèche is also available.

We have a loop system for those hard of hearing. Notices and service sheets are available in larger print and services on CD are available for the housebound on request.

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Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect Church policy. Enquiries should be directed to the Editor.

Copies of this magazine are held on the Church website and therefore all articles can be viewed through the internet. Submissions of all articles should therefore highlight any information you wish to be removed from the online version.

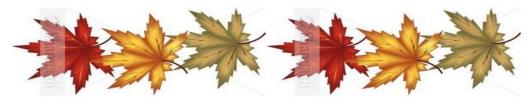
Website: www.hanhammethodist.org.uk

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Full details of all Church activities can be found on our website together with information on Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Boys Brigade.



#### **Word from the Minister**

Hello and greetings from the Manse in Bath Road. We are in and beginning to settle; I say begin because I am writing this from the Office surrounded by half unpacked boxes and a desk piled high with, who knows what. We had a successful move, almost, as you may have heard I sprained my ankle on day one! My wife Anne and our daughters Tracey and Samantha had to do most of the work unfortunately.

People have been very kind offering help and feeding us. Thank you also for all the cards of welcome.

I am reading a book called "*The Book Thief*" by Markus Zusak. The main character is a little girl who must leave what she knows and loves and start again with a new family during the last war in Germany; a view of life on the 'other side', so to speak. Some of her feelings of anticipation and unfamiliarity I can resonate with at this time. It's a truly great book and worth reading.

My hope for us is that we soon get to know each other and become as family, looking out for each other and sharing God's love in our community.

Looking forward to worshipping with you soon.

**God Bless** 

**Barry** 



#### **East Bristol Cluster News**

At the last meeting of cluster representatives, forthcoming activities were shared and it was good to hear about successes with Messy Church, Holiday Clubs and Holiday at Home.

The idea of holding a Café Church within the cluster, in the way in which it was originally conceived, within a café setting was put forward. As a result of further discussion, the first meeting will be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm to 7pm at the Chapel Coffee Shop in Longwell Green. Further details are available from the poster in the vestibule.

As cluster churches we recognise that we can no longer expect families and others to be available at times when we have traditionally shared the Good News. It is good to see many churches offering a range of activities on different days of the week at times to suit those who would like to learn more about our faith.

## Glenys Lewis



## Lightshine - a musical for the Christmas season

As a special Cluster Event we are planning a performance of the Christmas musical **Lightshine** at Hanham on the evening of Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. And we need some singers – all ages and all levels of experience. Rehearsals will be at Hanham starting in September. At present we are thinking of Wednesday afternoons but we could do evenings as well or instead.

Please contact Richard if you are interested and he will send you a copy of the music and some music files to play it on your computer, laptop or iPod – so you can practice at home as well. You can email at **richard.lucas@blueyonder.co.uk**\_or ring on **985 0102**. Either way we hope you can join us and let your light shine.

#### The Prophet – On Religion

Your daily life is your temple and your religion. Whenever you enter into it take with you your all.

Take the plough and the forge and the mallet and the lute,

The things you have fashioned in necessity or for delight. For in reverie you cannot rise above your achievements Nor fall lower than your failures.

The Prophet speaks of our daily life as being at the heart of our faith. In truth our daily lives are usually humdrum affairs comprised of going to work, cooking, washing, shopping, cleaning, gardening and all the other tasks that fill our day. So it is in the ordinary that the majority of our time is spent; but it is there that we can find God.

This passage reminds me of a verse of a hymn that didn't make it from the Methodist Hymn Book into Hymns and Psalms, let alone Singing the Faith. A line from MHB 601 says

"Nevermore thou needest seek me: I am with thee everywhere. Raise the stone and thou shalt find me, cleave the wood and I am there."

When the current lectionary was introduced there was some criticism that Sundays outside the major festivals were styled "ordinary" rather than Sundays after Pentecost for example.. People argued that Sundays were not ordinary at all. I understood what they were saying but for me it is in the 'ordinary' things of life that we should seek to find God otherwise we may not see him in those extraordinary moments when they come our way.

Tim Lansdown

#### HANHAM METHODIST CHURCH

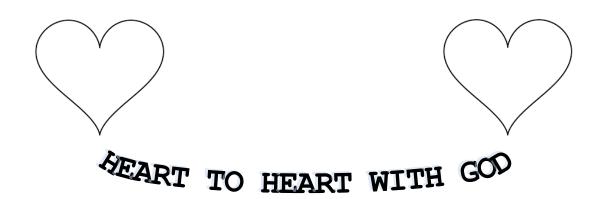
will be holding a

**RETREAT DAY** 

at

CHEW STOKE METHODIST CHURCH on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015 10.00 am – 3.30 pm

The theme for the day will be



The cost is £10 - this includes a buffet lunch and the cost of the hall.

Booking is essential by the 25th OCTOBER.

Please let Tim Lansdown 9606864 or Joan Brabon-Hibbs 9042235 know as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

#### **Friendly Table**

Toward the end of 1999 a group of ladies and one gentleman from the church got together to plan a weekly lunch club. It was to be for anyone, but primarily for elderly and lonely people, offering a time of companionship as well as a two course meal. It was decided to open on a Monday as that was the day that Bright Hour met and it was felt that there would be a nucleus from the Bright Hour to support it. A competition was set up amongst Church members for an appropriate name and the winner was 'Friendly Table'.

So the Friendly Table opened in January 2000, the first meeting attracting about 25 members on a very rainy day. Since then only one of the original staff is still working with us and only one of the original customers is still attending. At the peak about a year ago we were serving around 50 lunches together with about 15 staff lunches, but we now average just over 30 customers per week. We are indebted to Kingswood Community Transport who bring about a third of our clientele each week.

We offer a main course each week, but change it each week on a two monthly cycle. Soups or jacket potatoes are offered as an alternative. After the desert tea or coffee are served in the lounge.

We open every Monday apart from bank holidays except for a short break over Christmas and New Year and a longer break during the end of July and August when the Y's Men take over with their soups and deserts. In December we put on a full blown Christmas dinner for which we don't charge.

Friendly Table is open to anyone who is looking for some company on Monday lunchtime. We would also welcome some extra help with staff as we sometimes struggle to get enough cover. As the years go by we find the average age of the helpers is now approaching the average age of the customers! However it has been a joy to welcome some young blood in the person of Emily Spencer and we continue to appeal for more help to ensure that we can keep this very worthwhile service going.

The Friendly Table Team

## **Bright Hour**

The future of the Bright Hour meeting has been under discussion since the beginning of this year and for several months, Bright Hour has been held on a monthly basis. The meeting has lost members through illness and the biggest difficulty has been in finding someone to facilitate the meeting. This has been shared for quite a long time, but those who have been keeping the meeting running can no longer do so.

At the final meeting in July, before the usual summer break, a decision was taken to close with immediate effect.

This was a very sad and painful meeting but one which needed to happen. For most, the inevitability of closure was accepted, but for those who found the idea of change impossible to grasp, it was upsetting. Although a painful meeting in many respects, it was an opportunity to reflect upon Bright Hour's past when it was for many the only opportunity to come together for fellowship.

This decision will be brought to the next Church Council and by then, the books will have been audited and any money left in funds will automatically be transferred to HMC.



#### **Harvest Celebrations 2015**

Gifts for Harvest can be received at church on Friday 18th or Sunday 20th September. As usual we shall be sending dry goods to Midland Road.

Harvest Lunch will be on Sunday 20th September at 12.15pm, please give your names to Pam B, everyone is welcome!

#### Coffee Morning in aid of Wesley's New Room

As I am sure most of you are aware, John Wesley's New Room has been awarded a grant of £2.6 million towards the Horsefair Project and work is scheduled to begin in the Autumn.

Consequently Saturday morning refreshments in their current form will cease and the Trustees have expressed their appreciation to all the churches and volunteers who have offered this service to the New Room over the years. I would like to add my own sincere thanks to all who have provided cakes and accompanied me to the New Room since I took over organising our slot from Nesta.

It is proposed to have a café and expanded shop on the ground floor of the new building and to employ a full-time retail manager (supported by volunteers). In the meantime however, our support is requested to host a coffee morning at our own churches to raise funds for the project. To this end I have booked a 'slot' on the rota for **Saturday October 17**<sup>TH</sup> and hope we can rely on your support once again for cakes, help and your attendance.

Thank you in anticipation.

Brenda Thompson

#### Mission Committee - Chocolate Extravaganza!

A provisional date has been set at **9th October** for a "Chocolate Extravaganza" evening. Look in the newssheet for further details.

#### Y's Men's Club of Hanham – Quiz Night!

The Y's Men's Club of Hanham will be holding their annual quiz night on **Saturday 7th November**. Come and join us for the usual fun, amazing prizes and food.

Further details in the notices nearer the date.

## And Just To Say...

#### Thank you thank you thank you...

...for cards, flowers, phone calls visits, help and assistance to all at HMC who have been so helpful and remembered us in prayer at a difficult ongoing time when we are restricted in so much but give thanks to God for so much blessing.

Hazel and Arnold Wheeler



#### Thank you

Roy Lewis would also like to thank everyone for the support he and Glen have been given over the past three months. Your prayers, visits, messages and practical help have been such a blessing.

#### **News from our Extended Family**

**Dee** has settled into Welsh life and is particularly enjoying the beach! She has had a surprise visit from Andrew Prout who was on BB Camp nearby, and sends her love to all.

Natalie Mair has continued to share her musical talent since leaving her position with us as Organist. Her career in the army has led to her playing at many high profile events including garden parties at Buckingham Palace and a 'Classical Spectacular' at the Royal Albert Hall alongside the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Venus School of Dance -** 'Dance - Make Your Move' is a national competition organised to raise funds for the British Red Cross. The piece created by the dancers has to involve the work of the British Red Cross – but there is plenty to choose from as the Red Cross do an enormous amount of charitable work in so many different areas – from first aid training, finding missing persons, working with the homeless and the lonely – to responding to disasters both here and overseas.

After competing at local heats and Area Finals, Venus School of Dance Junior Elite Team won through to the National Final of 'Dance - Make Your Move' at London's O2 in July, and came second!

Their piece was called 'Make A Change' and told the story of two very different groups of people, those who have more than they need but are constantly seeking more, and those who have nothing and face a daily struggle to survive. Neither group is happy with their lot and want to 'Make A Change' with the help and support of the British Red Cross they are both able to change their lives for the better.



## **Signposts**

It must be the weather, July with the record for the hottest day and also the record for the wettest. Not good for those who suffer from arthritis. Not at all normal. Summers were times when day after day was glorious

sunshine, not too hot, which enabled games of tennis and cricket to go on into the late evening.

But what is normal?

Changing circumstances, changing society, changing health mean 'normal' too is changing - I never thought I would be in the position I am today.

So much has changed, the world has opened up with companies operating in many continents, people flying across the world. Family life has changed, no longer restricted by distance or boundary yet often split by conflict. Thousands trying to move to escape persecution to places of greater safety or security.

Church life has changed as it tries to take the gospel message to a multi-cultural society.

In all circumstances understanding and love are required, the word love so easily misused yet so well outlined in Corinthians 13:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

**ACW** 

# Autumn Word Search

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ACORN
BEAUTIFUL
CORNUCOPIA
FOOTBALL
LEAVES
OCTOBER
RAKE
SCENIC
SQUIRREL
YELLOW

APPLE
BONFIRE
CRISP
HARVEST
MIGRATION
ORANGE
RIPE
SEASON
SUNFLOWER

AUTUMN
BROWN
FOLIAGE
HAYRIDE
NOVEMBER
PUMPKIN
SCARECROW
SEPTEMBER
SUNSHINE

#### **Rotas**

#### Flowers:

| Sept            | 6th         | 13 <sup>th</sup> | <b>20</b> <sup>th</sup> | 27 <sup>th</sup>      |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Church          | Roy Skinner | Pam<br>Liddiard  | Harvest                 | Shirley<br>Goodenough |
| War<br>Memorial | Free        | Pam<br>Liddiard  | Harvest                 | Shirley<br>Goodenough |

| Oct             | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 18 <sup>th</sup> | <b>25</b> <sup>th</sup> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Church          | Maureen<br>Stone | Philip Biggs     | Lilia Curnock    | Dorothy<br>Blackmore    |
| War<br>Memorial | Maureen<br>Stone | Bill Frost       | Free             | Dorothy<br>Blackmore    |

#### Doors and books:

| Sept | 6th      | 13 <sup>th</sup> | <b>20</b> <sup>th</sup> | 27 <sup>th</sup> |
|------|----------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Morn | B Jones  | M Golding        | P Kirby                 | P Webber         |
|      | H Teague | R Ticktum        | J Angell                | J Tippett        |
| Eve  | Messy    | J Morgan         | T Lansdown              | M Kenway         |
|      | Church   | M Morgan         | A Angell                | M Kenway         |

October rota will be finalised and circulated shortly.

| N AK                  |          | For Your Diary   |
|-----------------------|----------|--|
| st Sept               | <b>*</b> | Welcome service for new District Chairman,<br>Rev. Jonathan Pye, at Bristol Cathedral. |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept  | 4.00pm   | Welcome Service for new Circuit Ministers at St. Mary Redcliffe.                       |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept  | 10.45am  | Rev D Alderman   |
|                       | 4.00pm   | Messy Church – The Lost Sheep  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept | 10.45am  | Rev B Bishop – Holy Communion  |
|                       | 6.00pm   | Rev B Bishop   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept | 10.45am  | Mr A Biddlestone – Harvest Festival  |
|                       | 12.15pm  | Harvest Lunch  |
|                       | 6.00pm   | Mr R Lucas   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept | 10.45am  | Mr J Wing  |
|                       | 6.00pm   | Rev A Sails – Holy Communion   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct   | 10.45am  | Rev B Bishop – Holy Communion  |
|                       | 4.00pm   | Messy Church - Creation  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct  | 10.45am  | Rev C Spencer - Boys' Brigade Re-dedication  |
|                       | Evening  | Bristol Evangel Choir  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct  |          | Coffee Morning – in aid of Wesley's New Room   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct  | 10.45am  | Mr J Edwards   |
|                       | 6.00pm   | Rev R Barley   |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct  |          | Mrs H Gray   |
|                       | 6.00pm   | Mr J Hopper  |