

Hamham Methodist Church Magazine

March / April 2016



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

Find us on Facebook: Hanham Methodist Church

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Wesley's Wisdom..... | 4 |
| Lent House Groups..... | 5 |
| Pancakes!..... | 5 |
| Messy Church..... | 6 |
| Spring Fair..... | 7 |
| Flower Festival..... | 7 |
| TLC in Hanham..... | 8 |
| Y's Men's Club..... | 8 |
| Temptation..... | 8 |
| The Spring Fair!..... | 10 |
| And Just To Say...a message from Youth Church..... | 12 |
| Hanham Library..... | 13 |
| Julian Trust donation..... | 14 |
| Signposts..... | 15 |
| Quiz page..... | 17 |
| And Finally..... | 18 |
| Rotas (Doors and Books, Flowers)..... | 19 |
| For Your Diary..... | 20 |



WESLEY'S WISDOM

*'To God your every want
In instant prayer display;
Pray always, pray, and never faint;
Pray, without ceasing pray!'*



John Wesley quotes this verse at the start of his first of ten 'Methodist Habits' He clearly sees prayer as pervading every part of the Christian's life. He says 'All that a Christian does, even in sleeping and eating is prayer'.

I recall a minister from my younger days who to hear him lead prayer was like listening to him talking to God as though they were sharing a cup of coffee over the kitchen table. It sounded so natural. Although, apart from the Lord's Prayer, we have dropped the Thee and the Thou, our language when we pray still tends to be stilted and deferential.

I would take issue with Wesley over the first line of the hymn quoted above 'to God your every want....'. Prayer to me is not asking God for something we want or even telling God something, for surely he already knows our needs and the situation we are in. Prayer is seeking God's will for us where we are. It is asking for guidance and strength to cope with the vagaries of life and to show us the way forward.

And prayer should lead to action; else our prayers are in vain. If, for example, we pray for people in need we should be ready to show that concern in practical ways. If we prayer for the peace of the world we should seek to be at peace with those around us. As the hymn says 'Let there be peace on earth but let it begin with me'.

The closing verses of James epistle have some wise words on prayer. In chapter 5 verse 16 he says 'The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective'. Let us be a praying church.

Tim Lansdown

Chairman, Worship Committee

Lent House Groups

“Transformed by the Presence of Jesus”

The dates and venues of the remaining Lenten house groups are:

- † Thursday 3rd March at 2 Avonlea
- † Wednesday 9th March at 4 Martins Close
- † Tuesday 15th March at The Manse 135 Bath Road

Pancakes!

Some days, at this time of year, can be a little dark and dreary, that was not the case on Shrove Tuesday. As you entered the church premises from about 5pm there was a distinctive aroma of batter being fried and tossed coming from the kitchen.



This year – after a dummy run in 2015 - we were determined to have a good store of pancakes ready for our visitors and that was certainly the case. Pancakes, toppings and drinks were all available for immediate consumption.

There were a few new faces this year, although we were delighted to welcome back our stalwarts, who knew the high standard of the products on sale.

Our venue was different this year, partly because the bottom rooms were unavailable but the choice of lounge and sanctuary went down well. Pancakes were mostly eaten in the lounge area whilst puzzling over a Shrove time quiz, however the church was the setting for a Treasure Hunt, involving all the elements of good pancakes and the ideas associated with them. Quite a lot of collaboration took place but that's all part of the fun.

My thanks go to all who helped in any way to make this evening a success, especially as we managed £65 for Mission Charities.

Pam Blackmore

Mission Chair

Upcoming Events:

13th March "Not So Simple Lunch" 3 course meal (cost £7.50)

15th May "Simple Lunch" (cost £3.50)

Please contact the church about the lunches as they need to be ordered.



Messy Church meets at 4pm on the first Sunday of the month and all families are welcome. Come and get messy!

March 6th Easter

April 3rd Joseph and his Coat of Many Colours

Spring Fair 9th April

A reminder that our Spring Fair will be held on **Saturday 9th April and will run from 10am to 12.30pm**. As well as your time, we once again ask for your generous gifts of **Cakes** (for the Country Fayre and two refreshment outlets), **Recycled Gifts** (those things you have which are in good condition but don't really want but no bric-a-brac please), **Pickles and Jams, Toiletries** etc. We are not able to accept mains electrical goods. Stall holders will be contacted and asked to organise the staffing of their stall. We are also pleased to have people on the day simply available as cover to help.

We will be setting up the hall and stalls at 2pm on Friday 8th April when you can bring your donations and we would welcome your help at this time, as well as dismantling of the Fair once it is finished.

The Fair is a means of both outreach into the Community and of raising money for the ongoing work of our Church. Please make every effort to attend and also invite neighbours and friends.

EVCOG

Flower Festival 23rd/24th April 2016

Our flower festival this year will be entitled 'Reality and Fantasy' and will be open on Saturday 23rd April 10.00am - 4.00pm and Sunday 24th 2.00pm - 5.00pm, with the usual Saturday morning coffee and cakes, and cream teas from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Flower Committee



TLC in Hanham.

Our new TLC venture has helped several people but we had hoped we might help more. We have now been running for 6 months and feel we should stand back and decide where we are going. We are convinced there is a need in the community but feel our venue may not be conducive to people using our service.

The TLC Team

Y's Men's Club of Hanham

Friday 4th March - Frampton Cotterell Male Voice Choir with guest Organist, Richard Lucas.



A concert is to be held at 7.30 pm in the Church. Cost £5 for adults, £3 for Young People. A variety of light music will be sung. Tickets available from Pam Liddiard (9670910) or pay on the door.

Saturday 16th April - Murder Mystery Evening!

Please come and enjoy the fun. Further details to follow in the Church Notices.

John Liddiard – Club Past President

Pam and John L have recently returned from their first “all inclusive” holiday. You feel guilty if you do not partake of all the food and drink on offer and guilty if you do, so there is no hope. The poem below is a light hearted take on their dilemma.

TEMPTATION

A vestige of the Moon hangs in the sky
The clouds are motionless close by

The sea rushes on to the shore and decides not to stay
This is the beginning of another Gran Canarian day

The all-inclusives rise as one
Slide open their patio door and seek the sun
They vow that today they will live frugally
And breakfast on a bowl of muesli
But, in the restaurant they see dish after dish after dish
And a fully fried plate is too much to resist

All is not lost, however, as they munch and they crunch
They resolve together, not to have lunch
Unfortunately, the mid-day pangs begin to strike
And the buffet is full with what they like
A bit of this and a bit of that, they can't overcome the pull
And Hey Presto, once again, their plates are full

This, I'm afraid, is not the end of their plight
Later, it's Gala Dinner Night
Sensible eating is a meaningless phrase
When viewed through an alcoholic haze*****
So, what's to be done in this man made land of over fill
The question is, will they go again
The answer is, You bet they will.

****Poetic license, I can assure you.

JHL

p.s. This, of course, is a slight exaggeration, we went on trips, walked, swam and would you believe, danced a little, as well as relaxing in the sun and enjoying the hotel's location and sea views. Gran Canaria is a beautiful island especially when one gets away from the busy tourist areas.



CHURCH FAIR

10.00am -

Messy Church Activities

**Many stalls
to browse
around!**



*Tea & Coffee
in the Lounge*

Gift stall



9th APRIL

12.30pm

Lucky Programme



Country Fare



Raffle & Quiz



**Bottle
Stall**



And Just to Say...

On Behalf of Youth Church



We would like to thank Joan for everything that she has done. She has helped us in many ways as we have matured. From inviting us around her house to bake bread for communion to spending afternoons in the church watching films, Joan has given up so much of her time to guide us.

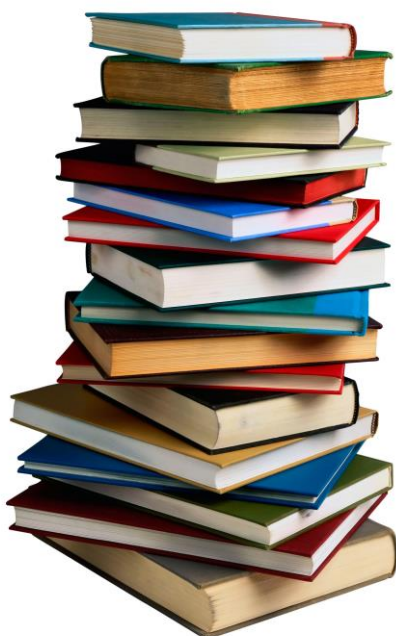
She has made learning about religion fun and interactive, a great example is the amazing plot twists she puts on our Christmas plays such as the superhero nativity!!! Youth Church wouldn't have been the same without her.

Love Olivia, Megan, Sophie and Ethan

Hanham Library

South Gloucestershire Council is consulting with residents about changes to the library service, required because of reduced funding from government. The consultation is based on proposals that would allow the service to reduce funding by £650,000 a year, however it is important to note that no decisions have yet been made on how these savings could be delivered.

There are a range of options and proposals described in the consultation. The current consultation runs until 13 May. During that time there will be a consultation forms for people to make their views known and these are supported by a number of drop-in sessions at libraries to allow residents to find out more about the current proposals and to make their views known. Hanham Library's consultation is on Tuesday 5th April 2.00-7.00 We are encouraging people to let us have their views on the proposals details of which can be found at www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges





Founded by Meg Grimes in 1986

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Visit us at www.juliantrust.org.uk

Re: Donation of £195

Thank you very much for the donation recently received from Hanham Methodist Church of funds raised from your Christmas events. We thoroughly appreciate your continuing support for our charitable work at the Night Shelter and hope you will pass on our thanks to all concerned.

Despite all the time given by volunteers and numerous gifts of food we still need to find around £1500 a week to run the shelter. It is only through very kind donations such as yours that we have been able to keep on serving the poor and disadvantaged in our society for over twenty five years.

If you are interested in receiving newsletters and updates to keep in touch with us and support our work would you please send an email to friends@juliantrust.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Richard Drake, Treasurer

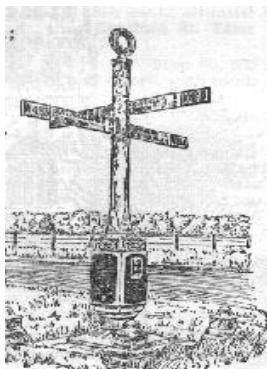


The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

Registration No: 2084536. Charity No:294751

Signposts



Descending the steep path from the Mount of Olives down towards the Garden of Gethsemane and seeing Jerusalem spread out, the distances that Jesus was taken became real.

Passing Dominus Flevit - the Church where Jesus, riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, wept over the city.

Then on to the entrance to the garden where a pillar reminds us that the disciples slept as Jesus prayed.

On Easter Day we rejoice in a risen Lord and an empty tomb but on Good Friday the world changed.

In the garden Jesus was betrayed by Judas and taken to the house of the Chief Priest close to the Upper Room where only a few hours before Jesus had gathered with the disciples.

Near the Church of the Cock Crow where Peter would deny that he knew Jesus.

From the house of the Chief Priest to the Pavement where dice was thrown for His garments and then to the Courtyard of the Chapels of Flagellation where Jesus was flogged before being taken before Pilate by the Ecco Homo Arch.

We followed the Via Dolorosa from there into the main thoroughfare and turned up the hill onto the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where the Ethiopian Church reside.

So we went down into the church and came to the place of crucifixion.

None of us who gathered from the Circuit and the wider area even as far as South Wales will ever forget, the party led by the Rev Tony Price.

Looking at the group photo taken in the Garden of Gethsemane sadly we realize so many are no longer with us.

Gathering too in the Garden Tomb where we celebrated communion with the Late Pastor Lovell (Mill Lane Methodist) and the Rev Hilary Cook

Rejoice on Easter day – but it was on Good Friday the earth was shaken and changed.

ACW

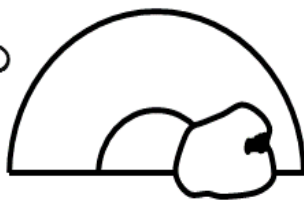


**GARDEN -
EMPTY TOMB
RISEN LORD**

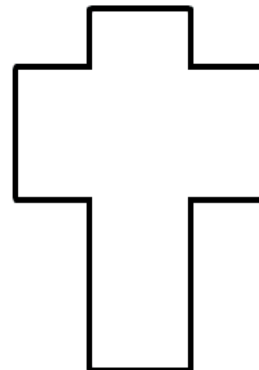
Easter Word Search

T H O R N S W Y S M L A P N G
K R I S E N Y C E N O T S E C
R E T S O O R D R K H O T V R
B E L I E V E S E O N H B I U
Y T P M E Z D X S Y S O C G C
E C I F I R C A S E A S D R I
E V I L A L N B M O T R B O F
S I N U I N N A I L S C T F Y
W V G F A E N P I L A T E E S
B R E A D E Y A R P D I E D B

ALIVE
BELIEVE
BETRAYED
BREAD
CROSS
CRUCIFY
DIED
DONKEY
EMPTY
FORGIVEN



GETHSEMANE
GUARDS
HOSANNA
LIFE
NAILS
PALMS
PILATE
PRAYED
RISEN
ROOSTER



SACRIFICE
SIN
SON
STONE
THORNS
TOMB

And Finally,

Something to think about as we start our Spring Cleaning...

Dust If You Must

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better
To paint a picture, or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed,
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read,
Friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,
With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain.
This day will not come around again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind.
And when you go – and go you must –
You, yourself, will make more dust.

Rotas

Doors and books:

| Mar | 6th | 13th | 20th | 27th |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| a.m. | P Kirby J Angell | P Webber J Tippett | P Blackmore J Green | M Howe N Howe |
| p.m. | Messy Church | M Morgan J Morgan | T Lansdown A Angell | M Kenway M Kenway |

| Apr | 3rd | 10th | 17th | 24th |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| a.m. | M Wilby A Sagar | H. Teague B. Jones | M Golding R Ticktum | P Kirby J Angell |
| p.m. | Messy Church | C Haycock R Ireland | B Griffen W Stamford | M Morgan J Morgan |

Flowers:

| Mar | 6th | 13th | 20th | 27th |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Church | Flower Committee | Bill Frost | Marjorie Brooks | Easter! |
| War Memorial | Flower Committee | Pat Saunders | Marjorie Brooks | Rosemary Ireland |

| Apr | 3rd | 10th | 17th | 24th |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Church | Richard Needs | Audrey Dayer | Audrey Dayer | Flower Festival |
| War Memorial | Richard Needs | Audrey Dayer | Audrey Dayer | Flower Festival |

For Your Diary

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 st Mar | 7.30pm | Lent House Group |
| 4 th Mar | 7.30pm | Frampton Cotterell Male Voice Choir |
| 6 th Mar | 10.45am | Mothering Sunday |
| | 4.00pm | Messy Church |
| 8 th Mar | 7.30pm | Lent House Group |
| 13 th Mar | 12.00pm | Not So Simple Lunch |
| 15 th Mar | 7.30pm | Lent House Group |
| 20 th Mar | 10.45am | Palm Sunday |
| 24 th Mar | 7.30pm | Maundy Thursday Communion |
| 25 th Mar | 9.45pm | Good Friday Service |
| 27 th Mar | 8.00am | Early Morning Easter Communion |
| | 10.45am | All Age Worship |
| | 6.00pm | Evening Communion Service |
| 9 th Apr | 10.00am | Spring Fair |
| 16 th Apr | | Murder Mystery Evening |
| 24 th Apr | | Music and Flowers |