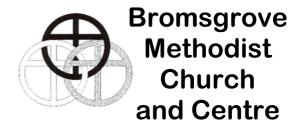
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April - May 2024

Bromsgrove Methodist Church and Centre: encouraging, supporting and developing followers of Jesus Christ and sharing God's love in the wider community

REGULAR SERVICES and KEY CONTACTS

SUNDAY

1st 9.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Morning Worship

2nd 10.30 am Morning Worship

3rd 10.30 am Morning Worship

4th 10.30 am Morning Worship

- Holy Communion at one 10.30 am service each month
- Holy Communion at 6.00 pm once a month
- Special Services as arranged.

Please see the Centre Pages for full service details

Minister: Revd Peter Powers

10 Johns Close, Studley, B80 7EQ

Tel: 07941 328155

Centre Office: 19 Stratford Road

Bromsgrove, B60 1AS Tel: (01527) 835843

Room Bookings: e-mail: <u>bromsgroveroombookings@gmail.com</u>

Find out more at www.brommethcentre.org.uk

Welcome to your April - May FORUM

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Material for FORUM to the Editor, Jim Buchanan, c/o Centre Office or email:les.jim42@btinternet.com

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Church at any level

The further adventures From death to new life.

This time last year my family and I embarked upon a journey that would complete a promise made to my old dad before he died. My brother and our families climbed aboard a borrowed minibus and drove the 500 miles from Birmingham to the town of Dronten on the Polder in the Netherlands carrying half of dad's ashes with us. We had already scattered the other half where my mother's ashes



were scattered 10 years before, near a small river in Warwickshire at a place we used to visit for picnics and fishing when we were children. He was to make his final journey in the company of those who loved him.

In truth, this last journey began in 1978 when he, and our mum, made their first journey to the town that was to become their second home. Every year for the whole of my adult life they made their annual pilgrimage to remember another generation who died in conflict. I have been reminded that the time between the end of the second world war and their first visit in 1978, 35 years later, is less than the time from their first visit to now, 45 years! Time really does fly.

As well as our children, we also had our youngest family member with us, my brother's grandson. He's three years old and his excitement was focused on "I'm going on a big ship, Uncle Peter". We had decided to take the ferry from Dover to Calais so that he could add another form of transport to his list. He loves vehicles and machines of all kinds. He also loves dinosaurs and cats and dogs and his great grandad. Ninety-four years between them, and yet they had a special relationship. Young and old bonding over a love of toast and jelly!

As we approached the ferry our youngest traveller became fearful and didn't want to board. Real tears representing all the tears of those who fear new experiences, the unknown challenges of life to come. He bravely overcame his fears and we got aboard. By the time we reached the port of Calais, he was deeply upset that we were having to disembark! He wanted to stay on the big ship that an hour or so before he didn't want to get on! A micro metaphor for life.

We are fearful of that which is to come. In journeying through our fears, we discover things aren't as bad as we expected. More than that, we find ourselves in love with our experiences. So much so that the memories stay with us for ever.

We scattered dad's ashes in ground that was still sea in the 1940s. Yet to become land reclaimed from the water. Land that would give new life to thousands of people. Land that now grows food and tulips. Land that holds towns and industry and transport and commerce and schools and homes. So much new life.

Our trip went as planned. Dad would be pleased to know that we have completed his life's journey.

We read part of the gospel of John; Chapter 14 has always been one of the most intimate parts of Scripture for me.

Jesus is calming his disciples' fears about death. Specifically, his impending death at what we know as Good Friday. Jerusalem and the Cross awaited. Jesus knew that he was likely to be arrested and beaten and killed. He knew he had disturbed those powerful rulers of his land so much that the only response left to them in their ignorance and fear would be to kill him. He offers words of comfort to those who would face death with him. They would run from fear. They would desert him at the very moment he loved them the most. In their fears of death to come, Jesus sits them down and comforts them.

With words that are easy to understand, in simple theology, he gives them hope. "I'm going ahead of you"; he says, "to prepare a place for you to be, a home, a room. And when your time to die comes, I shall come for you, and accompany you through the pain and loss of the dying time into the new life of heaven. I shall take you to the room I have prepared for you."

There is comfort and hope in his words. We will all find a new home and new life in the gift of the Servant King who goes ahead of us, and all creation, to make our place ready for us.

I know my dad rests in peace. I know he lived a long, long life. I was with him when he died, and I know Jesus was with him at his death too. Dad has two final resting places. Both were important to him in his life.

We gave thanks for him and the gift of all those who gave their lives to give us new life. At Eastertide we give thanks to Jesus who gives us a new life that transcends all time and place.

May God grant you, and those you love and care for, joy and peace this Easter.

Rev. Peter

St George's Day 23rd April – The English patron saint who isn't English



It's perhaps typical of the English that they should have a patron saint who isn't English, about whom next to nothing is known for sure, and who may not have existed at all.

That didn't stop him being patriotically invoked in many battles, notably at Agincourt and in the Crusades, and of course it is his cross that adorns the flags of English football fans to this day

It's most likely that he was a soldier, a Christian who was martyred for his faith somewhere in Palestine, possibly at Lydda, in the early fourth century.

At some point in the early centuries of the Church he became associated with wider military concerns, being regarded as the patron saint of the Byzantine armies. There is no doubt that he was held as an example of the 'godly soldier', one who served Christ as bravely and truly as he served his king and country.



The story of George and the dragon is of much later date and no one seems to know where it comes from. By the Middle Ages, when George was being honoured in stained glass, the dragon had become an invaluable and invariable visual element, so that for most people the two are inseparable. Pub signs also have a lot to answer for here: *'The George and Dragon'*.

However, it's probably more profitable to concentrate on his role as a man who witnessed to his faith in the difficult setting of military service, and in the end was martyred for his faithfulness to Christ.

The idea of the 'Christian soldier' was, of course, much loved by the Victorian hymn writers – 'Onward, Christian soldiers!'. The soldier needs discipline. The heart of his commitment is to obedience. The battle cannot be avoided nor the enemy appeased. He marches and fights alongside others, and he is loyal to his comrades. In the end, if the battle is won, he receives the garlands of victory, the final reward of those who overcome evil.

St George's Day presents a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is to distance the message of his life from the militarism and triumphalism that can easily attach itself to anything connected to soldiers and fighting.

The opportunity is to celebrate the ideal of the 'Christian soldier' – one who submits to discipline, sets out to obey God truly, does not avoid the inevitable battle with all that is unjust, wrong and hateful in our world, and marches alongside others fighting the same noble cause.

Discipline, obedience, courage, fellowship and loyalty – they're not the most popular virtues today, but that doesn't mean that they don't deserve our gratitude and admiration.

(Stained glass window illustrated opposite is in Westminster Abbey)

April 23rd is the birthday of William Shakespeare

(The following was included by Rev. Wilfred Shepherd in "Tried Recipes" a booklet from The Central Methodist Mission at Bishop Street, April 1955)



Life is not all "Tempest", neither can it be always "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

Often it would seem as though it were "A Comedy of Errors", and frequently as if it were "Much Ado About Nothing"; and – alas! – more often than not it appears to be "Love's Labour's Lost".

Very rarely is it "As You Like It". Often in summer it tells "A Winter's Tale".

But if you have faith enough to hold on your way you will discover that "All's Well That Ends Well" and in the long run everyone will receive "Measure for Measure".



News from Girls' Brigade

We started back at GB in

January full of excitement at what 2024 would bring. We were slightly sad though as Abbie, one of our leaders from Day 1, had taken the next step in her life and moved to York. We miss her but wish her all the best in her next adventure.

Once again, we have been able to celebrate all our girls' achievements over the last year with our awards evening. And it was fabulous to welcome a number of new members who were enrolled too. It was lovely to have lots of parents join us at our special night. To enjoy the evening further, the girls had prepared goodies to eat after the presentations and a lot of fun was had by all.



For our badge work this term the Explorers have been thinking about our country; the Juniors have been exploring kindness and the Seniors have been thinking about coping with life! (Perhaps they could give us a few hints!)

We have celebrated Shrove Tuesday with the obligatory pancake making and eating as well as pancake racing. As you can probably tell, food has a great importance in Girls' Brigade meetings one way or another!

Looking towards Easter, we have been thinking about the importance of the Cross. We were delighted to have Janet Millward join us to work with the Seniors in making mosaic crosses on coasters.

The Juniors made their own mosaic crosses using sticky squares and the Explorers decorated their crosses with tissue paper. Hopefully you will have seen some of our work around the church over Easter.



We look forward to whatever the summer term brings - hopefully with some sunshine!

Allie, Beckie, Claire, Lucy, Bella and Irene

SPRINGTIME

SPRING IS REALLY HERE AGAIN PEEPING THROUGH MY WINDOW PANE.

RAINDROPS TAP TO START THE DAY

IN A FLASH, THEY RUN AWAY.

NOW THE WIND BEGINS HIS DANCE,

GUSTING IN A MERRY PRANCE

TILL AT LAST, WITH STRENGTH ALL GONE,

IDLY PUFFING, HE MOVES ON.

MORNING SUN NOW SPREADS HER RAYS

EVER CHANGING, THESE SPRING DAYS



BY JEAN WISEMAN



Real Love

Real love breaks down walls.

Real love lifts one who falls.

Real love lingers by way of hope.

Real love is seized upon like a rope.

Real love goes with you through fire.

Real love stirs up heartfelt desire.

Real love leaps to save you even in deep water.

Real love clings even when trials get harder.

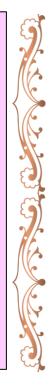
Real love endures through difficult change.

Real love adapts when things must rearrange.

Real love invests when there is no return.

Real love grows with life lessons learned.

...When you love, love for real...



Bromsgrove Methodist Church

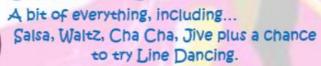
Invites you to ...

An afternoon Tea Pance - for all!

Saturday 13th April 3.00 pm - 5.00 pm

Tickets £5 (including tea and cake)

Ballroom and Latin dances.



Come to watch and join in when you like, with a partner, on your own or learn a group dance routing.

JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON!

Tickets available from
Jim Buchanan 01527 833531
or The Welcome Coffee Shop at Church.

\$ -7 HYMNS WE LOVE \$ -7

Singing the Faith No. 73 – by Horatius N. Bonar (1808 – 1889)

Fill my life, O Lord my God, in every part with praise, that my whole being may proclaim your being and your ways.

Not for the lip of praise alone, not even the praising heart I ask, but for a life made up of praise in every part:

Praise in the common things of life, its goings out and in; praise in each duty and each deed, however small and mean.

Fill every part of me with praise; let all my being speak of you and of your love, O Lord, poor though I am and weak.

So shall you, gracious Lord, from me receive the glory due; and so shall I begin on earth the song for ever new.

REFLECTION

The author Horatius Bonar was a Presbyterian minister who lived and died in Edinburgh. Studying at Edinburgh university, he was ordained in 1837, and wrote many influential papers, as well as hymns. He belonged to a family of Church of Scotland clergy, who served the church for 200 years.

The words of this hymn really need no explanation. I have changed the old-style address of "thee" and "thine" to "you" and "yours"; although this is a matter of personal preference.

For me though, the sentiment that no part of me or my life should be without thanks, adoration or praise, is something to work at for a closer walk with God.

Worshipful praise comes from the heart as well as the lips. It reminds me of that other hymn (No. 78) "Give thanks with a grateful heart....because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son."

Bonar continues "Let all my being speak of you and of your love", and it is a love worth sharing with those who don't have God in their lives, a transforming and hope-filled love.

The fifth stanza mentions that glory (and praise) for all that is good in our lives is due to God. We do indeed have a song to sing of praise, which is "ever new" to each new generation. See also "Born in Song" – No. 21 in Singing the Faith.

Every blessing, JOHN WEBB



Welcome to a new exciting venture bringing together people living with memory change, their care partner/friend/supporter and volunteers, to share in a social friendly café.

Launch date is Friday 19th April 2024.
Look forward to welcoming you.
Future Dates: 17th May; 21st June; 19th July

If you are interested in joining the team of volunteers we would love to hear from you.

Sheila: 07811 563486 Sally: 07884 191101 Pat: 07966 370448

Why does the Russian (Orthodox) Church Cross have 3 Bars?

The three-barred Cross, as shown, is the most common shape used in the Orthodox Church — whether as simple adornments, crucifixes, or in Icons which show the Cross, the three bars are usually present.

The short, extra top bar represents the sign nailed to Christ's Cross, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS (Luke 23:28; in John's Gospel the sign reads: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews")



The lower, slanted, bar is the foot-rest of the crucifix. All crucifixes would have had these, as no one could be suspended from a cross by nails alone. The cruel death of a crucifixion was not brought about through blood loss, but by lack of oxygen: exhausted, the man is no longer able to stand straight upon the foot-rest, the body sags, and air can no longer be drawn in.

The foot-rest of Christ's Cross is slanted because it is believed that in the final moments before Jesus gave up His spirit, His flesh spasmed and the foot-rest was kicked out of place.

But in this true event there is also symbolism. The foot-rest points up, toward Heaven, on Christ's right hand-side, and downward, to Hades, on His left.

One of the Orthodox Church's Friday prayers clearly explains the meaning: In the midst, between two thieves, was Your Cross found as the balance-beam of righteousness; For while one was led down to hell by the burden of his blaspheming, The other was lightened of his sins unto the knowledge of things divine. O Christ God glory to You. Luke 23:39-43

Stamps for Hedgehogs

I would like to thank the members and friends of Bromsgrove Methodist Church for saving me their used postage stamps. I send them to a BHPS lady in Solibull who calls them for the BHPS in Towleadhur.



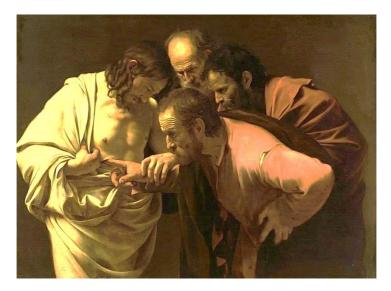
Solihull who sells them for the BHPS in Tewkesbury. The money goes to the Vale Wildlife Hospital who care for sick and injured wildlife.

If you are out visiting that way in Gloucestershire please call in at the Centre. They will be pleased to see visitors and have sent letters of thanks for all donations they have received. In the meantime, please keep saving your used stamps.

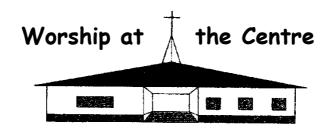
EVENTS AFTER THE RESURRECTION (1)



MEETING ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS



DOUBTING THOMAS



April 2024

7th 10.30 am

Morning Worship Mr Charles Ashworth

14th 10.30 am

Holy Communion Revd Peter Powers

21st 10.30 am

Morning Worship Mrs Sue Pinfield

28th 10.30 am

Morning Worship Revd Anne Smith

6.00 pm

Circuit Easter Offering Service: "Let Justice Roll" with Communion, led by Revd Ruth Wilson

Do join us for this special annual service when the Easter Offerings of all the churches are dedicated.





Service prepared by Methodist Women in Britain

May 2024

5th 9.00 am

Holy Communion Revd Alan Bidnell

10.30 am

Morning Worship Local Arrangement

12th 10.30 am

Holy Communion Revd Peter Powers

19th Pentecost 10.30 am

> Morning Worship Mr Ian Athey

26th 10.30 am

Morning Worship Mr John Webb

6.00 pm

Holy Communion Revd Peter Powers

Sunday Flowers

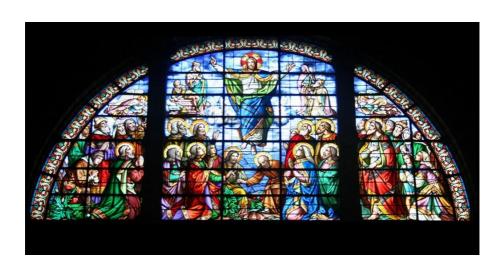
The following list indicates the names of those who will contribute to the cost of Sunday flowers during April and May.

	April		May
7th	Sue Holt	5th	Win Bingham
14th	Liz & Lynn Dovey	12th	Lesley & Jim Buchanan
21st	Di Ross	19th	Margaret Anderson
28th	Fran & Nick Westrop	26th	Mary Lawrance

EVENTS AFTER THE RESURRECTION (2)



JESUS ASKS PETER"DO YOU LOVE ME?"



THE ASCENSION

Bromsgrove & Redditch Methodist Circuit MWiB committee warmly invite you to lunch at Bromsgrove Methodist Church.

Hot Lunch & News from the world of MWIB



Guest speaker

Anne Browse

Ex-Connexional President of MWIB



Saturday 11 May 2024 From 12.00pm Booking is essential for catering purposes

PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME TO

Janet Henderson or Irene Rhead

BY SUNDAY 5 MAY

19th May Pentecost/Whit Sunday – the Birthday of the Church

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First-fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.



A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit – the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but he knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days.

And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them.

The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell* the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course, Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.



* Indwell /In'dweiy
be permanently present in (someone's soul or mind); possess spiritually.
"The Holy Spirit indwells God's people"

THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM FOR BUSY PEOPLE

The Lord is my pacesetter, I shall not rush. He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of stillness, which restores my serenity.

He leads me in the ways of efficiency through calmness of mind.

His guidance is peace. Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day, I will not fret.

For his presence is here, his timelessness, his allimportance will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity by anointing my mind with oils of tranquillity.

My cup of joyous energy overflows. Such harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours.

For I shall walk in the peace of the Lord and dwell in his house for ever.

Amen

(A translation from a work by a Japanese Christian)



Christian Aid Week 12-18 May

Christian Aid, along with its partners, is continuing to support people in the Ukraine where the need for humanitarian aid is as important as ever. In the Middle East, Christian Aid's established partners are responding as best they can, under intense pressure. They're responding with medical relief and community-led initiatives such as food, shelter, sanitation and cash. This includes building mobile bathrooms in shelters, to working with local farmers to get fresh vegetables for families that have left their homes to escape airstrikes.

As well as these and other emergencies world-wide, Christian Aid still supports malnourishment and poverty in countries such as Burundi where 70% of the population find survival a daily struggle. This Christian Aid week, they tell the story of Aline.



She was married young and gave birth to her eldest son, Fisto, when she was just 14 years old. Aline experienced constant abuse at the hands of her violent husband. A few years later, her husband married another woman, forcing Aline to flee.

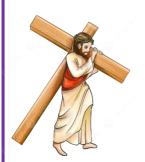
He prevented her from taking their children with her, and in a further act of cruelty, told the local community that Aline was mentally ill and unable to care for her children.

Hungry, scorned and alone, Aline took her first step towards her new life. She started by participating in a transformative three-day community workshop, funded by Christian Aid. 'I came out with amazing knowledge and skills. The trainer restored a sense of hope and energy in me,' says Aline. She was taught how to form a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and establish a steady income. VSLAs mean people can save for their future and borrow money to kickstart small rural businesses. With all she had learned, Aline's dream of getting her children back finally felt possible.

Here at Bromsgrove Methodist Church, we will be handing out envelopes on 12th May. Please continue to support this cause as much as you can.

Many thanks, Claire Hill

Only Jesus



Carrying the cross by Himself *He went out.*

Sent out, yet choosing to go. Word of life, He went out.

Choosing death, knowing the end from the beginning,

He went out.

Carrying the cross by Himself

He went out.

The only one who could, The only way He could, He went out

To the Skull Place, For me.

HOUSEGROUPS - A CHANCE TO LEARN AND SHARE

BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH CENTRE, ROOM 6

UPPER ROOM WELCOME GROUP

NOT SO MUCH A BIBLE STUDY AS A RELATING TO TODAY'S ISSUES BASED ON OUR LIFE EXPERIENCES. WE GAIN SUPPORT TO COPE WITH THE CHALLENGES BOMBARDING US FROM NEWSPAPERS AND TV AND ASK THE QUESTION:

AS CHRISTIANS, HOW DO WE RESPOND?

EVERYONE WELCOME 1ST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH 10.30AM - 12 NOON WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!



HAVE YOU HEARD?

WE ARE THE PEOPLE DEALING WITH HEARING LOSS.

WE SMILE A LOT AND GUESS THE CONVERSATION.

COME AND JOIN US IN AN UNDERSTANDING SPACE WHERE EVERYONE'S CONTRIBUTION IS HEARD AND VALUED.

ALSO ENJOY PICKING UP SOME TRICKS AND TIPS TO HELP US ON THIS JOURNEY.

2^{NO} FRIDAY IN EACH MONTH 10.30-12 NOON.

HAVE A CUPPA AND CHAT.

PAT: 07966 370448

Well done, God!

Several years ago, a notice appeared on the vestry notice board of a church in Hampshire, after a Holy Week performance of Stainer's 'Crucifixion'.

The choirmaster wrote "The Crucifixion – well done, everyone!"

Later that day, someone had added, 'The Resurrection – well done, God!'

Prayer Line

We've learned to live with "voice mail" as a necessary part of modern life. But have you ever wondered what would happen if God decided to install voice mail? Imagine praying and hearing this!

"Thank you for calling My Father's House.
Please select one of the following options:
Press 1 for Requests
Press 2 for Thanksgiving
Press 3 for Complaints
Press 4 for all other enquiries"



What if God used the familiar excuse... "I'm sorry, all our angels are busy helping other saints right now; however, your prayer is important to us, and will be answered in the order it was received, so please, stay on the line."

This might be followed by any one or more of these:

"If you would like to speak to Gabriel, press 1, for Michael, press 2. For a directory of other angels, press 3".

"To hear King David sing a Psalm while you are holding, press 4."

"To find out if a loved one has been assigned to Heaven, press 5, enter his or her social security number then press the hash key."

"For reservations at My Father's House, please enter J-O-H-N-3-1-6."

"For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, the age of the earth and where Noah's Ark is, please wait until you arrive here."

"Our computers show that you have already prayed once today. Please hang up and try again tomorrow so that others may have a chance to get through."

"This office is closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Please pray again from Monday after 9.30am."

"If you need emergency assistance when this office is closed, contact your local minister."

Thank God (today) that He doesn't have voice mail, and that He listens whenever we pray and that will never change!!

From: A Bucket of Surprises, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books.

Wednesday Meeting Point Programme for April/May



Wednesday April 3rd Jim's Surprise

Wednesday April 17th Bag Beetle

Wednesday May 1st Easy Country Dancing

Wednesday May 15th Who am I?

We meet at 7.30 pm in Room 6. All are welcome.

We collect a small voluntary donation from attendees each meeting, which will be distributed after discussion at our AGM in June

The New Curate

The curate appointed to a new church had a rather inflated view of himself. A few minutes after he had moved into his new office, he noticed there was someone in the corridor waiting to see him.

Thinking he would create a good impression, he picked up the telephone and, speaking in a voice which would be heard outside, he said, "Hello, yes I'm the new curate and I already have a string of people who have said they want to see me, so I am going to be very busy. Would you mind ringing later in the week."

Putting the phone down, he asked the person in the corridor if he could help him.

"Yes," was the reply," I have been sent to connect your new office telephone."

Humour Corner



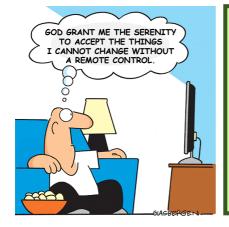
"I downloaded them from a cloud."

Since Youngsters of Today have their Texting Codes (LOL, OMG, TTYL, LMAO, etc.) the Oldies decided not to be outdone by these kids and now have developed our own codes too:

- ◆ATD At the Doctor's*
- BFF Best Friend's Funeral
- BTW Bring the Wheelchair
- BYOT Bring your own teeth
- FWIW Forgot Where I Was
- GGPBL Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low*
- GHA Got Heartburn Again

Bible Q&A

- Q. What's the best way to study the Bible? A. You Luke into it!
- Q. When is medicine first mentioned in the Bible?
- A. When God gave Moses two tablets!
- Q. Did Eve have a date with Adam? A. No, just an apple!
- Q. Who was the fastest runner in the Bible
- A. Adam he was first in the human race!
- Q. What's a miracle that can be done by a complainer?
- A. Turning anything into whine!



A Welsh Minister was upsetting the older members of his chapel by the length of his sermons.

One day an old man greeted him: "What is your sermon on today?"

- "The milk of human kindness."
- "Ah," the old man said,
- "condensed, I hope?"

Sporting Dialogue

During a game, the coach asked one of his young players:

"Do you understand what cooperation is?

What a team is?" The little boy nodded yes.

"Do you understand that what matters is winning together as a team?" The little boy nodded yes.

"So," the coach continued, "when an LBW is called, and you are out, you don't argue or curse or attack the umpire. Do you understand all that?"



Again, the boy nodded yes.

"Good," said the coach.

"Now go over there and explain it to your mother".

And Finally

I hope that you have enjoyed reading this edition of FORUM. Once again, many thanks to those who have contributed items and to those who have provided assistance in producing the finished magazine.

I would particularly draw your attention to the fundraising event on 13th April. The Afternoon Tea Dance is a new venture for the Social and Fundraising Group and we hope that it will attract strong support. Full details will follow in the weekly newsletters.

The next edition of FORUM will cover the months of June/July with deadline for submission of items being Sunday 12th May. Please email to les.jim42@btinternet.com or leave any written items in the FORUM file in the Church office.

Jim Buchanan



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CHURCH ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE

MONDAY	6.00 pm	Girls' Brigade
TUESDAY	10.00 am 10.00 am	Toddler Group Knitting Group
WEDNESDAY 6.00 pm		Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
	6.45 pm 7.45 pm	Boys' Brigade Juniors Boys' Brigade Company/Seniors
	7.30 pm	Meeting Point (1 st & 3 rd)
FRIDAY	10.30 am	Welcome Housegroup (1st)
2.00	10.30 am) - 4.00 pm	Have You Heard Housegroup (2 nd) Memory Change Café (3 rd)

During the week other groups and organisations run activities at the Centre too. See the noticeboards for information.

CAMEO (1st & 3rd)



SATURDAY 10.30 am

THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP

Monday to Thursday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm Saturday (1st & 3rd) 10.00 am to 12 noon

Closed on Friday

