



The Methodist Church

Bishopston, Easter Compton, Horfield, Shirehampton Methodist Churches and St Peter's Pilning.
Minister: Rev Patrick Stonehewer T: 0117 924 8407, E: patrick.stonehewer@methodist.org.uk

We are part of the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit (www.bsgc.org.uk),
a family of over forty churches serving communities across the local area.

These notices are also posted on <http://www.horfieldmethodist.org.uk>

God's table is open to all

Sunday 18 July 2021 - Bible Month (3)



Much comment has been made in the past few days about the performance of the England football team in the final of the Euros. Whatever our views about the result and how the team performed during the match, one thing that struck me throughout the tournament was the ethos of the team, highlighting their togetherness as well as their diversity.

In stark contrast to that, it is galling and upsetting to have seen a range of personal and racial attacks directed towards the young black players of the team this week. Responding to these attacks, Pheobe Parkin, the Methodist Youth President wrote: "... we live in a society where sexism, racism, nationalism and violence are enabled, where not enough of us (including myself) actively work to challenge even the lowest levels of sexism, racism and nationalism. Jesus showed us that we should be peacemakers and showed us that we should love others as ourselves, showing the same grace and compassion that God shows to us."

The funeral I conducted this week included 'Let there be peace on earth, And let it begin with me,' a song which reminds us that we all have a responsibility to build a community rooted in God's values, here and now. We can all do something to make sure that happens

Let us pray for the many who experience racism in their everyday lives; may we all model ourselves on principles of love, compassion and respect for self and our neighbour alike. Amen

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Horfield with Bishopston at 10.00 am on July 18. Joint Service on Zoom and in person, led by David Bainbridge.

We are pleased we are able to increase the number of worshippers in person on Sunday mornings to 40. Please arrive in good time for the service so you can register your details for Covid-19 purposes. Please enter via the left-hand doors from the Gloucester Road frontage, with the side (red) door in Churchways Avenue solely for those needing level access. Please wear a face covering whilst in the building (unless you have a medical exemption) and follow other Covid-19 arrangements within the building including maintaining two metres social distancing at all times. Do not attend worship in person if you have any symptoms of Covid-19. Please understand that if 40 people have arrived before you then we will not be able to let you in. You will continue to be able to join the service via Zoom.

Shirehampton on 18 July at 11.00 led by Rev Patrick Stonehewer, in person with Holy Communion.

St Peter's Pilning with Easter Compton on 18 July at 10.00 at the Church.

Circuit Farewell Service on 18 July at 4.00 for Rev David Alderman, Alex Grand (Ark Team) and two Circuit Stewards. You are all invited to join this service online, Zoom details below.

Horfield: Junior Church sessions continue online every Sunday at 10.00. Please email Helen (treasurer@horfieldmethodist.org.uk) before Saturday midday for the Zoom access details.

All Age devotions for everyone, available via www.rootsontheweb.com

Open Church Cafe on 19 July from 10.00 onwards hosted by St Peter's, Pilning. Please contact churchwardenpilning@gmail.com for the joining details.

Evening Prayer every Wednesday at 4.00pm for 35 minutes hosted by St Peter's, Pilning, using the Church of England "Join us in Daily Prayer" resources <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-andworship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>.

Bible Study on 21 July, 7.45-9.15pm, held via Zoom, details below.

Services on 25 July

Joint Service with Bishopston, Easter Compton, Shirehampton and Horfield at 10.00 at Horfield and on Zoom, led by C. Blenkinsopp

St Peter's, Pilning- at 10.00. led by Rev Patrick Stonehewer at the Church.

OTHER WORSHIP DETAILS on 18 July

Sunday Worship. Radio 4 at 8.10 a.m. Rebirth and Renewal in Senghenydd. Bishop June Osborne explores renewal after trauma.

Songs of Praise- BBC 1 at 1.15. Katherine Jenkins visits Arundel in West Sussex to explore the Cathedral and Castle gardens.

Daily Service at 09.45 each weekday - BBC Radio 4 LW.

WEEKLY NOTICES - please send items to Eurfron by Tuesday, eurfron@blueyonder.co.uk or 969 1908.

GENERAL NOTICES

Local Preachers - Long Service Awards. Congratulations to the following Local Preachers who are being awarded long service certificates. Due to current COVID restrictions these will be presented to them by their Ministers.

60 years : David Bainbridge, Colin Blenkinsopp, John Edwards, Margaret Hilton, Ann Osmond, Glyn Varney, Bob Wood, Arnold Wheeler.

50 years : Christine Stones.

Exhibition and Sale of Artwork by Rosalind Hick, 20 July - 1 August, 10.30 - 4.00 each day at The Function Room, Taurus Crafts, Lydney GL15 6BU. Rosalind was a Christian counsellor, counselling supervisor, Local Preacher in our Circuit and member at Speedwell.

Betty Franklin wishes to thank all who sent messages of sympathy and flowers to her and her family over the last few weeks. She also thanks all those who organised and helped at Graham's funeral and made everything run so smoothly.

Victoria Methodist Church - Eco Fair, Saturday 24th July, 11 - 1:30

S W A P S H O P : C l o t h e s , B o o k s , P l a n t s a n d m o r e .

ORGANISATION STANDS - PHOTO and POETRY - EXHIBITS and REFRESHMENTS. Talks from 2:00 onwards. Evening performances from 7:30.

Bristol Eco District - Newsletter 3, Summer 2021

https://mcusercontent.com/bcf1bde8bc4a29dae7362b02a/files/7e2e07b9-469f-9d08-ef65-1af5bbe49984/Newsletter_Summer_2021EcoDistrict.docx

JPIT - Stay and Pray- How do you pray for justice issues? It can be difficult to know where to start, or find a rhythm of prayer that works for you. The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) publishes a daily prayer for a local, national or global justice issue. You can access it on Facebook or have it emailed to you each day. Why not build this into your daily activities? More information can be found on the JPIT website.
<http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/corona-virus/stay-and-pray/>

Methodist Prayer Handbook, 2021-22 "A Place For All". If you are interested in ordering a copy, priced £4.50 each, please contact Linnette Nelson on 0117 9514919.

Horfield - Charitable Giving. The charities we shall be supporting over the next year will be **Harvest** - The Food Bank with goods and the Bristol Methodist Centre with money. **Christmas Gift Day**- we shall join with Parkway Methodist Church supplying gifts through Social Services and on **Christmas Day** we shall support the Children's Hospice S.W. At **Easter** - Women's Work. We shall also support Christian Aid and All We Can (the Methodist Charity). It was decided that we shall put all our efforts into supporting these charities during the year and dispense with the other ongoing collections using home boxes etc. The Young People are being invited to support a charity of their own choosing.

Horfield. An important part of our discipleship is to pray for our community and one another. This week you are asked to pray for the following and their families; John and Rachel Gowin, Geoff Grady, Hayley Grady, Colston Grady, Jade Heal.

Horfield - Future Date: Leadership Team, Tuesday 20 July.

Lectionary readings for 18 July; Psalm 23; 2 Samuel 4 : 1 - 14a; Ephesians 2 : 11 - 22; Mark 6 : 30 - 34, 53 - 56.

Lectionary reflection on following page.

This reflection is provided by Local Preacher Alison Smith (St. Andrew's).

We'd just buried John the Baptist. He'd been beheaded on the whim of Herod's step-daughter. It was an awful blow and we'd all felt it deeply. Jesus was as upset as the rest of us. Whatever had happened didn't change the fact that we now had to get on with our lives and go on with Jesus.

We'd all been out among the people. We'd been teaching them about the Kingdom and love of God. So many people, but we'd managed to find Jesus and bring Him up to date with what we were doing, before we went into the crowd again. There were so many who wanted to hear what we were saying, people coming and going, that there was no time for anything else. We had no time to think, never mind rest or eat.

We'd been amongst the people for what seemed like hours when Jesus suggested we take some time out. That sounded like a brilliant and very welcome idea, and we were all up for that.

Stepping away from the crowds was not as easy as it might sound. There were people everywhere, easing ourselves away from any company was very difficult.

We thought we'd managed it though, because we'd found a boat that could take us all out onto the water for a while, where we could just relax. We steered the boat through the water to a place that looked like it could offer us some respite, but on the shore were loads of people watching us leave. They somehow knew who we were and where we were going. They started to run along the shore. They followed the boat somehow, all through the towns along the shoreline while we were steering the boat to our oasis.

We could see ahead of us the crowds of people who'd run all the way to meet us, dodging hedges and donkeys, jumping ditches and ignoring stones digging into their feet.

We couldn't do anything but moor the boat near to this crowd of determined people. They looked bedraggled, exhausted and expectant, so much so that Jesus took pity on them.

The crowd was so large now that they looked like they needed someone to guide them, and Jesus did that. He taught them. He told them stories about the kingdom, how they should treat each other and how they should live together, until it was so late that we had to stop Jesus' teaching and get him back in the boat.

We sailed the boat through the night until we'd crossed the lake to Gennesaret where we tied it up.

When we left the boat, Jesus was recognised and again the crowds began to arrive, huge crowds that surrounded us on every side who'd come to see and hear Jesus.

The people even sent runners to fetch others from neighbouring towns anywhere and everywhere.

I guess they must have covered the whole region because everywhere we went, villages, towns or farms there were sick people lying on mats, being brought to market places, sitting and wailing or crying out in pain for Jesus. They would beg Jesus to help them, or at least to allow them to touch the hem of His cloak; and everyone who did touch Him was made well.

Prayer. The Lord is my shepherd, He gives me strength, He guides me and protects me, and I know that His goodness and love will be with me all my life and that I dwell in His home now and for ever. Amen

Our thanks to Alison for this reflection.

