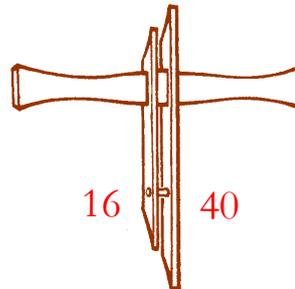


# The RECORD

*The Magazine of*  
BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH



*September, 2016*

# BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

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**welcome!** 

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If you are curious and have come to see us  
If you are weary and have come to rest  
If you are grateful and have come to share  
If you are hurt and have come for solace  
If you are listening and have come to pray  
If you are seeking and have come for answers

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**welcome!**

## *For your information*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP:** 11 a.m. every Sunday; there will be no evening services except for special occasions. (Communion on the first and third Sunday mornings.)

**CITY PRAYERS:** Tuesdays at 1.10 p.m.

**CITY COMMUNION:** Thursdays at 1.10 p.m.

**The minister** will usually be at church on Thursday mornings. You are always welcome to pop in for a chat, but please phone first if you are making a special trip as events frequently mean that the minister's plans have to be changed.

## NOTES from the MANSE

ONE of the pleasures of ministry is picking the hymns for worship. This requires a certain amount of self-discipline. When I was at college, and therefore preaching in a different church each week, I started many services, perhaps even most, with *The God of Abraham Praise*. I still consider it to be one of the great hymns of Christendom, but I now have a self-imposed rule that I do not choose a hymn more than twice in the year. That way, I hope, we have a reasonable variety.

Some hymns are made more interesting by the life story of their author. I have recently (14th August) chosen a morning hymn of Thomas Ken, *Awake my soul, and with the sun thy daily stage of duty run*. According to the *Baptist Hymn Book Companion* the last verse, a doxology, is probably the most frequently sung verse in Christian worship.

Thomas Ken lived in the 17th century. He was an Anglican clergyman, appointed Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1681. He was a fellow of New College, Oxford. Ken was not a recluse, but deeply involved with the royal household and the turbulent politics of his day.

He was outspoken and would not compromise what he considered to be his duty before God; God came before the king in Ken's life. An example of this occurred when he was the chaplain to Princess Mary, niece of Charles II, in The Hague. She was married to William of Orange. Ken took William to task for mistreating his wife, having an affair and allowing scandal in his court. Ken survived just a year in the job!

Back in England, he was made chaplain to Charles II. Ken demonstrated that his primary duty was to God when Charles paid a visit to Winchester. Ken's house was requisitioned to provide accommodation for the king's mistress, Nell Gwynn. Ken refused to allow this and is reported to have taken the roof of his house to make it uninhabitable.

In 1687, the *Declaration of Indulgence* was published by James II. This Act gave toleration to Dissenters and Roman Catholics. Ken was one of six Bishops who refused to read out the *Declaration of Indulgence* in his church. He was imprisoned in the Tower of London, but

acquitted after trial.

When William of Orange was invited to become king and James II fled the country, Ken refused to take an oath of allegiance to William because he had already sworn allegiance to James. Ken was deprived of the See of Bath and Wells, and spent the last twenty years of his life, effectively exiled from his diocese, at Longleat. These years were lived in quiet seclusion.

Ken died in March, 1711. It was his wish to be buried in Frome, “under the east window of the chancel, just at sun-rising.” So, at daybreak a few days later his friends gathered to sing, “Awake my soul, and with the sun...” and lay this man of great integrity to rest.

**JOHN HOUSEAGO**

### *Sermon themes*

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**All services are at 11 a.m. and will be led by the minister unless otherwise noted.**

**4th September, 2016**

Revd Peter Webb.

**11th September, 2016**

Lost and Found. *1 Timothy 12-17 and Luke 15:1-10*

**18th September, 2016**

Worldly Wise. *1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Luke 16:1-13*

**25th September, 2016 \*\* 6.30 p.m. \*\***

The Rich Man and Lazarus. *1 Timothy 6:6-19 and Luke 16:19-31*

**2nd October, 2016**

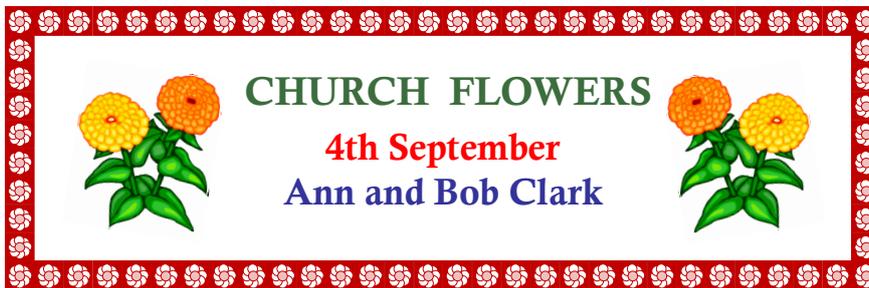
Harvest Thanksgiving Service

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**fellowship matters**

- We send congratulations and best wishes to **Jenny and Chris Douglas** following the arrival of their daughter **Grace Rose**, a second grandchild for our minister John and his wife Ros.

•We record the death of **Dorothy Frampton** with great sadness. She made a great contribution to our fellowship over many years – and continued to do so after her transfer to Counterslip Baptist Church by her leadership, together with her husband John, of the Terrill Group. We pray for John, Martyn and Paul and for all the family. A tribute to Dorothy will appear in the October *Record*.



## CHURCH MEETING

The next Church Meeting is on **Wednesday, 21st September, 2016**, at 7.30 p.m. in the Hiley Room. All members are encouraged to attend.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDIES

A series of Bible studies, based on the Psalms, is being held monthly during 2016.

They are held in the Choir Vestry at 2.15 p.m. lasting approximately one hour. The remaining dates for the 2016 are **29th September, 27th October and 17th November**.

## SUNDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER

Please note that the Bristol Half Marathon will take place on Sunday, 25th September. Road closures make it difficult to access the city centre, so our service will be held at **6.30 p.m.**

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year we will celebrate Harvest on **Sunday, 2nd October** at the 11 a.m. service. Gifts of tinned and packeted goods will be received in the service and then passed to the Julian Trust.

Also, as usual, we shall have the opportunity of meeting the needs of people overseas. Our TV sets constantly show the appalling conditions facing millions of our fellow human beings. Amongst them are the people of Syria, from where a huge flood of people has poured in a desperate search for safety. This flood has reached many places, but the country of Lebanon in particular has taken in a vast number of migrants in relation to its normal population.

Baptists in Lebanon have provided significant help to these refugees. We will be able to give some assistance via the annual BMS Harvest Appeal, this year entitled *Syria's Forgotten Families*.

### MISSIONARY BOXES

Many thanks to all who give to world mission by this means. New takers are always welcome! If you have a box please let **Sue Leatherbarrow** or **Carole Loveridge** have it as early in September as possible.

## JESUS THE THEOLOGIAN

For many of us the word 'theologian' refers to writers who study the existence of God and religious belief, and express their findings in complex sentences interspersed with Greek, Hebrew or Latin words and phrases. Such works are not written for the guidance of the ordinary lay-person. So, can we refer to Jesus as a theologian? The answer to that is in the affirmative, for Jesus used *metaphoric* theology. (A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to something which is not literally applicable, e.g. *food* for thought.) When Jesus wanted to express his concept of God,

he used everyday words or situations which were in the experience of his audience.

The Jewish religion in Jesus' lifetime had become divisive: God was distant in his heaven judging and punishing those and their descendants who did not keep his Commandments. The religious element, the Pharisees, continually redefined the law, sometimes to ridiculous degrees. One example was when the disciples of Jesus were walking through cornfields on the Sabbath, they plucked ears of corn to satisfy their hunger. The Pharisees asked Jesus, "Why are they doing what is forbidden on the Sabbath?" His reply was, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27)

The Commandments had been given to Moses at a time when the Israelites were a *nomadic* nation living in the desert, but after settling in Canaan, the promised land, they became a *pastoral* nation and working with nature was a 24/7 occupation, so the peasantry had no option but to break the Commandment forbidding work on the Sabbath and were considered as unclean and sinful. Thus, there was division, with the 'religious' keeping their distance from the peasantry, lest they became ritually unclean.

Luke tells us that tax collectors and sinners were gathering to hear the words of Jesus, when the Pharisees made known their disapproval, saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." Jesus replies by telling them three parables: The Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin, and The Lost Son.

It is in the parable of The Lost Son (Luke 15: 11-32) that Jesus expresses most clearly his *metaphorical* theology. For him, God is not remote and judgemental, but is active in the world, seeking to reconcile sinners to himself with his unconditional love. The sinner is not judged by God, but judges himself against God's amazing love.

In the parable, the Father welcomes the prodigal son back to his original status in the family and celebrates it with a feast.

(The answer to the Pharisees' complaint that Jesus "eats with sinners.") When the elder son returns from the fields, he hears the sound of the celebration and ask one of the servants what is being celebrated. When informed that the prodigal has been reconciled with his Father, he refuses to go into the house and his Father has to suffer the humiliation of leaving the guests to go out to meet him. The elder son, whose duty was to support his Father, complains that he has always served his Father well and has never been given a feast. The Father assures him that his love is for both his sons.

The parable is open-ended: it is an invitation for the Pharisees to draw their own conclusions concerning their relationship with God. It is also a parable that gave hope to those who had been labelled, "tax collectors and sinners."

It is worth noting that Jesus encouraged his followers to use the *metaphorical* noun 'Father' when referring to God.

When one considers the aspects of Jesus' ministry (Messiah, Politician and Theologian), one common factor emerges: his ministry is the reversal of the common expectations of his day.

**JACK APPLETON**

## OVER THE HORIZON

We were glad to welcome back the Chadwell family when they took our service on 3rd July. They told us how tough the past year had been for Nepal's people. Firstly there had been the earthquake which caused widespread devastation and killed and injured thousands and then there was the unrest which followed the country's adoption of a new Constitution. One ethnic group in particular believed that it did not afford them their just rights - and showed their resentment by blockading the Nepal/India border. Since the great proportion of supplies entering Nepal come across this border from India the conse-

quences of the blockade were acute shortages of fuel, cooking gas, drugs and countless other items.

The past year had also been very difficult for the family on account of other factors. It looked as though visa problems might be solved were Ian to work full-time for a partner agency for which he had previously worked part-time. This eventually materialised, but Ian still required a work permit. At the time of their visit this had not been granted. Cynthia and Ian saw a parallel between their journey through the experiences of the past year and the journey of the Israelites after they had left Egypt and believed that they too would see God at work. They did – the work permit was granted four days before the date booked for the return flight!

The past year has also been difficult for Kitty (our former overseas link), her husband Ray and their children Robyn and Tom, as they were forced to leave their post in South Central Asia due to a major security threat. After staying in Ray's hometown in Colorado, USA the family are coming to the UK where Kitty and Ray will be doing the twelve month intensive Masters programme in Development and Missions at All Nations Christian College. They hope and pray that following this they may be able to serve overseas again.

We give thanks for the commitment of these overseas links in the face of very testing circumstances and pray for their present and future service

Please submit copy for the next edition of *The Record* any time **BEFORE SUNDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER**. If you are offering something which has been written by another person, or printed elsewhere, please make sure you have asked permission first. Your own contributions are always welcome.

## Old Testament Characters Quiz

*This month's Quiz is all about characters from the Old Testament (NIV).*

1. What were the names of Jacob's two wives?
2. In whose reign did the prophet Micaiah work?
3. Who was the son of Jacob who wanted to save Joseph from the jealousy of his brothers and was later willing to be responsible for Benjamin's safety when the family needed corn from Egypt during a time of famine?
4. When the fingers of a human hand wrote on the wall at a king's feast, who was the king and who was the man called in to interpret the message?
5. Abigail had two husbands. What were their names?
6. Who was Salmon?
7. Who was a Jewish exile taken prisoner to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar; he succeeded Haman to a high position at court, using this to encourage the Jews to defend themselves against the massacre inspired by Haman?
8. Who was King David's tenth son and Bathsheba's second son by him, and for what was he famous?
9. Who was Gomer?
10. Who were Moses' brother and sister?



### ANSWERS TO JOURNEYS AND PLACES QUIZ

1. Nahor, where Abraham had relatives. Gen 24.10; 2. Midian. Exodus 2.15; 3. Mount Carmel. 1 Kings 18.19; 4. Nineveh. Jonah 3.1-2; 5. Jerusalem to Jericho. Luke 10.30; 6. Going to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. Mark 8.27; 7. From Jerusalem to Ethiopia. Acts 8.27-28; 8. Lystra. Acts 14.8-12; 9. From Troas to Macedonia. Acts 16.9-11.; 10. Athens. Acts 17.16; 11. Rome. Acts 18.2; 12. Spain. Rom 15.24.

# PRAYER AT BROADMEAD

## **28th August - 3rd September**

As the Undercroft reopens this week we pray that those who come will find refreshment and relaxation. We ask that the Crofters will be blessed in their service and in their conversations with visitors. May the Spirit of Jesus shine in this meeting place. We pray for the retail sector which surrounds our building and that the work of Andy Sewell will bring your light to staff who work in it. We pray for the Chaplaincy Trust and the future of the Retail Chaplaincy – that funding for this important work can continue.

## **4th September - 10th September**

Let us remember little children going to school for the first time and older children who are transferring to secondary school. Let us hold in prayer the schools near to where we live – for wisdom for all their staff, good relationships with pupils and good teaching. We pray for children who feel threatened by bullying or discrimination, and for those who struggle with discipline and learning. May God's influence and love bring understanding and acceptance where pupils come from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

## **11th September - 17th September**

We pray for our Chapel Stewards Ken and Lindsay as they act as the first point of contact with the many organisations who use our building, handle the detailed planning and make the necessary practical arrangements necessary for this use and meet individuals who come into the building, some with complex needs. We are very grateful for the care and efficiency that they bring to their vital ministry and ask for continued grace, patience and stamina.

## **18th - 24th September**

We give thanks for the visit of our link missionaries Cynthia and Ian Chadwell – and that, after much uncertainty, they have been able to return to Nepal. We pray for Ian as he resumes his work on hospital administration under new arrangements and for Cynthia as she returns to her work with the training of early-childhood teachers and with Women's Groups. We pray for Justin and Lucy as they move to the next stages of their education at the Kathmandu International Study Centre.

## **25th September - 1st October**

The Bristol Half Marathon takes place on Sunday 25th September. We give thanks for the money which the runners will raise for charity and pray for safety and stamina. As we gather for worship in the evening instead of the morning we pray for God's blessing and strength to serve Him in the week ahead.