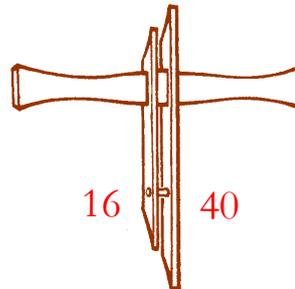


The RECORD

The Magazine of
BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH



June, 2017

BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

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welcome!

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

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

FROM time to time, the newspapers print a humorous photograph of a miss-spelt road sign. Most people can raise a smile when confronted with “schol” painted on the road in metre-high lettering! I recently came across a video introducing the Greek alphabet which had inadvertently missed the letter ‘d’ out altogether!

Such errors are difficult to see because we are too close to them. If we stand back, either literally or metaphorically, we can see more clearly. Even better, we can ask someone else to check what we have done. Like most people, I find it difficult to spot mistakes in what I have written, because when I read it back I know what I meant to say and therefore my brain supplies the missing words or subtracts any additional letters. I often ask my wife to read through a manuscript that I want to be accurate. Even then it will not be perfect, of course, but two pairs of eyes catch a remarkable number of errors.

Let’s consider these two different ways of reducing errors; standing back and getting someone to look over your work. Both have a place in normal Christian living.

Standing back. I hope that you will be able to get away for a holiday during the summer or, at the very least, that you will benefit from the slower pace in life during the summer months. Enjoy this chance to stand back. You may be able to see more clearly as a result.

Travel together. I am convinced that Christian discipleship is much more difficult if we try to do it on our own. Over the last two or three generations our society has become focused on individuals and we increasingly consider faith a private matter. It is worth remembering that Jesus sent his disciples out into the villages in pairs. The author of Ecclesiastes begins a passage about relationships by observing that “Two are better than one, for they have good reward for their toil.”

The Christian life is not easy and we all make a mess of it from time to time. Try to stand back and to travel with fellow pilgrims. We can watch out for each other. **JOHN HOUSEAGO**

(This article was first published in the August 2010 copy of THE RECORD)

Sermon themes _____

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

4th June, 2017

Pentecost. *Acts 2:1-21*

11th June, 2017

Trinity Sunday. *Matthew 28:16-20*

18th June, 2017

Revd Peter Slee

25th June, 2017

Revd Michael Peat

fellowship matters

Edited for the Internet



THURSDAY AFTERNOON STUDIES FOR 2017

REVISED PROGRAMME

I am preparing studies for Thursday afternoons which will explore the Reformation, principally through the biographies of some of the key personalities. Due to unforeseen circumstances the programme has been revised.

6th July MARTIN LUTHER

27th July ULRICH ZWINGLI

28th September JOHN CALVIN

26th October THOMAS MORE AND WILLIAM TYNDALE

30th November THOMAS CRANMER

I apologise for these changes, and especially to KNOX who has fallen off the list! The meetings start at 2.15 p.m. and last for one hour. Everyone is welcome. **JOHN HOUSEAGO**

CHURCH MEETINGS

The next Church Meeting is on **14th June** at 2.15 p.m. and will include the AGM. The meeting will be held in the Hiley Room.

The dates for the rest of the year are **Wednesday, 20th September** and **Wednesday, 29th November**. All members are encouraged to attend.

The Baptist Times Round-up

DOING SATAN'S WORK FOR HIM

Post-truth? Fake news? In a world awash with lies and half-truths, we who claim to follow Jesus are called to be men and women of total integrity and cast-iron honesty. By Colin Sedgwick

Do you ever tell lies? I suspect there aren't many of us who could say an honest "No" to that question. Most of us probably avoid brazen, bare-faced lies, but lying comes in many shapes and forms, and that's a very different matter.

Every time a footballer, untouched by the defender, goes down in the penalty area and appeals for a penalty, he is in effect telling the referee a lie: "Ref, he fouled me!" Every time we remain silent when something false is said about somebody else, we are in effect telling a lie just by allowing that falsehood to go unchallenged.

It's possible to live a lie. I knew a man who was thrilled to get a new job. But within a few weeks it came to light that he had falsified details on his application form, and he was sacked. But he couldn't bring himself to tell his wife. So every morning he would leave their flat at the same time and, so far as I could tell, spend the day walking the streets until it was time to go home (imagine that!). He brought it on himself, of course, and I don't know how long he was able to keep up the pretence. But I have to say that that man was among the most wretched, abject and pitiful people I have ever known, and I ended up feeling sorry for him.

In 2016, the Oxford Dictionaries chose "post-truth" as their "word of the year". We live, it seems, in a "post-truth society".

What does this mean? In essence, that when we speak it doesn't particularly matter if what we say is *true*; what matters is the emotional impact it has on our hearers. We can, in effect, make up our own "truth" as we go along; news we share might very well be "fake" news. Putting it bluntly, lying is OK.

The idea of "post-truth" is usually applied to politics: President George W. Bush was responsible for the Twin Towers atrocity; President Obama wasn't in fact an American citizen (and of course he was really a Muslim); on this side of the Atlantic, the statement during the Brexit debate that membership of the European Union costs Britain £350m a week.

All rubbish. Lies. But so what if it helps to turn an election or influence a vote?

The truth matters – and not just in political circles. The Bible is in no doubt about that: no mincing of words there!

Here's Jesus in John 8: the devil himself, no less, is "*a liar and the father of lies*". Every time you and I lie we are doing a satanic job. (Something to think about there...?)

And here's a couple of verses from the psalms: "*Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies*" - Psalm 34:13; "*Lord... You hate all who do wrong; you destroy those who tell lies*" - Psalm 5:5-6.

It isn't only the Bible that gives us this warning. Plenty of wise people throughout history, Christian and otherwise, have had good things to say. Here's a sample (I've been rummaging around in my Dictionary of Quotations) – I invite you to give them a few thoughtful minutes of your time...

He who permits himself to tell a lie once finds it much easier to do it a second time and a third time till at length it becomes habitual. (Thomas Jefferson, 1743-1826, statesman and President of the United States).

If it's not right, don't do it; if it is not true, don't say it. (Marcus Aurelius, 121-180, Roman Emperor.)

A lie can travel half-round the world while truth is pulling its boots on. (Various writers, including Mark Twain, author of Huckleberry Finn, 1835-1910). (Especially appropriate for this internet age!)

Truth is incontrovertible. Panic may resent it; ignorance may deride it; malice may distort it; but there it is. (Winston Churchill, 1874 - 1965.)

Truth's a dog must to kennel. (The Fool in Shakespeare's *King Lear* – he has just told the King something he doesn't like...)

And here are some proverbs from around the world: *The grave of one who dies for the truth is holy ground... Tell the truth and run... Time discovers truth... Truth is God's daughter... No honest man ever repented of his honesty... Truth will out.*

In a world awash with lies and half-truths, we who claim to follow Jesus are called to be men and women of total integrity and cast-iron honesty. Didn't the one we follow tell us that "I am the way, *the truth* and the life..." (John 14:6)?

So... "Post-truth"? Pah! "Fake news"? Bah! Not, I hope, while we're around!

JOHN KIMBERLEY FRAMPTON

(died on 4th April, 2017)

John served Broadmead well in the years after he had moved with his parents to our fellowship from Kensington Baptist, at the beginning of the 1950s. He soon became part of the Young People's Fellowship. For many years he was a deacon, and had responsibilities for arranging monthly feature evenings following the evening service. The annual lunchtime Carol service each Christmas was organised by him and it involved staff from shops and offices in the city. He was part of the Outreach Committee which sought ways of using our fellowship to serve those outside the church.

John used his preaching skills by being a member of the Itinerant Society team, and had a special feeling for ministering to the surrounding country village churches. He cared passionately for the suffering church and participated in the Open Doors meetings for prayer and action.

His family life was full and happy. He had met and married Dorothy and both were involved in all aspects of church life with sons Martin and Paul. After the children had grown up, John and Dorothy transferred to Counterslip Baptist. Yet they still kept their links with Broadmead by continuing to run the Terrill Group meetings here.

After Dorothy's death last year, it was increasingly difficult for John to manage on his own. He did not complain about increasing frailty, and valued the care and concern of Martin and Paul's families. They paid tribute at his funeral to his graciousness and great generosity. We extend our sympathy to them, and give thanks for his life and witness.

Please submit copy for the next edition of *The Record* any time **BEFORE SUNDAY, 11TH JUNE**. 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. JACK APPLETON, *Editor*

ELECTION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

The Annual Church Meeting will be held on **14th June, 2017**, at 2.15 p.m. in the Hiley Room. Voting will take place for the Treasurer and the Secretary for which nominations and seconding will be required. There are no Deacons requiring election this year.



BMS world news

SHOWING LOVE TO VULNERABLE WOMEN IN CHAD

God's love transforms hearts. BMS World Mission volunteer Rebecca Hotchkin has seen this first-hand as she works to empower women who have suffered domestic abuse and escaped prostitution.

Rebecca is working on a project in N'Djamena where she builds relationships with the women and provides practical support as they go through a rehabilitation course. Recently a group of five women went through the programme. "These women often feel trapped and at the mercy of their husbands or other men," says BMS Mission Projects Co-ordinator, Kat Wagner. "They have a sense of being stuck in poverty."

The faith-based approach of the course is an important part of their rehabilitation. The women are taught about the gospel and they learn to value their own self-worth. The first five women who went through the course were so moved by what they learnt that they all committed their lives to Christ! "I've been really inspired by the way these women say that their lives have been transformed," says Rebecca.

The women were helped in practical ways too. They were taught how to make soap, bags and greeting cards which they can sell to supplement their income. Recently, they even landed a deal with a large hotel chain to make and sell mini soaps to the company!

The transformation that has come from showing love and concern is impressive. "All of the women talk about a very deeply held change within their hearts and how they see themselves differently," says Kat. "It's amazing because it's not just a head knowledge, it's something that really goes deep to the core of who they are and who they believe themselves to be."

MARY, JESUS' MOTHER QUIZ

1. With whom did Mary live after the death of Jesus, an arrangement made by Jesus himself?
2. In which Gospel are Mary and Jesus' brothers portrayed as accompanying him on some of his preaching tours?
3. After Joseph's visitation by an angel in a dream reassuring him to marry Mary, what other messages were brought to him in the same way?
4. When does Mary go and visit Elizabeth, wife of Zechariah?
5. What is 'Mary's Song' usually called in Christian services?
6. What is the last mention of Jesus' mother Mary in the bible story?
7. In which Gospel are the Magi mentioned? In which one are the shepherds mentioned, at the time of Jesus' birth?
8. What were the names of Jesus' brothers?
9. In both Mark and Luke's Gospel there is an incident in which Jesus' mother and brothers come looking for him and cannot immediately get to him, when he is busy preaching and teaching. What does Jesus tell his audience about family?
10. What did Simeon say to Mary when she and Joseph presented Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem about the effect on her personally of Jesus work?

ANSWERS TO FAMILIAR PHRASES

The biblical references are not direct quotes, but sources of the idea.

1. Can a leopard change its spots? *1 Jer 13.23*
2. The love of money is the root of all evil *1 Tim 6.10*
3. For everything there is a season *Ecc 3.1*
4. Pride goes before a fall *Prov 16.18*
5. An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth *Matt 5.38*
6. What God has joined together, let no one put asunder *Matt 19.6*
7. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword *Matt 26.52*
8. Love your neighbour as yourself *Lk 10.27*
9. Charity shall cover a multitude of sins *1 Pet 4.8*
10. As you sow, so shall you reap *2 Cor 9.6*

PRAYER AT BROADMEAD

O God, we pray for your church which is set today amid the perplexities of a changing order, and is face to face with new tasks; fill us afresh with the Spirit of Pentecost. Help us to bear witness to the coming of your kingdom, and hasten the time when the knowledge of you shall fill the earth as the waters cover the sea.

28th May – 3rd June

Our loving Heavenly Father, we pray for the recovery of any who are facing illness, for those who are confined to home or hospital, for those in pain. Help them to be aware of your presence and to hold fast in faith and trust to you. We pray for your healing of them as you see fit.

AMEN.

4th – 10th June

Dear Lord, as we are so soon facing another election, we do pray for the General Election this week on 8th June, that we and all the nation's voters will give careful consideration to the issues and cast votes wisely and that there will be a right outcome for the good of all. AMEN.

11th – 17th June

Heavenly Father, guide the members at our church meeting on 14th June which includes the Annual General Meeting. We pray for our minister, church officers, deacons and pastoral care team; for the Chapel Trust and for all those who are prepared to serve the church in this way. May we give our support and encouragement to them in the days ahead. AMEN.

18th – 24th June

We praise and thank you, Creator God, for the long sunlit hours as we come to the longest day and then midsummer. May we value and use the blessings of summertime, responding to this gift by serving you in all we do, and give us the health and strength to do this in Jesus' name.

AMEN.

25th June – 1st July

O God, we hold before you our city centre situation. Guide us how best to serve those who throng this busy shopping centre. Help us to find ways to reach out to them with the good news of your love. Open their hearts to recognise your love for them so that they may respond to it.

AMEN.
