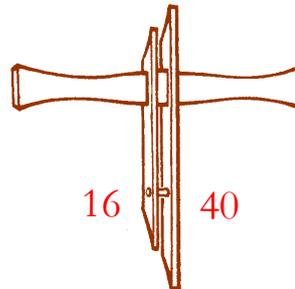


# The RECORD

*The Magazine of*  
BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH



*July, 2017*

# 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

ACCORDING to the biography of John Newton by Jonathan Aitkin (*John Newton*. 2007. Continuum) *Amazing Grace* is the most sung, most recorded and most loved hymn in the world. I am not sure how you measure how much a hymn is loved. It is, however, a quantifiable fact that more than 3000 versions have been recorded in the USA.

The hymn was written by John Newton in 1773 to prepare his congregation for his sermon on New Years' Day. He was the curate of Olney in Buckinghamshire. Newton knew that his congregation struggled to make much sense of the *Book of Common Prayer* or of the *King James Version* of the bible. He found that they were helped by singing hymns, a practice which was still a novel feature of worship. He therefore strove to write simply and clearly, taking great care over rhyme, rhythm and syntax. It is worth noting that of the 146 words in Newton's hymn 125 are words of one syllable!

The text for the sermon was 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, "Then King David went in and sat before the Lord, and said, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far?" In his sermon and in the hymn Newton drew a parallel between the undeserved goodness that God had shown to David, and his own experience as a convert to evangelical Christianity from the life of a slave trader. Amazing grace!

At the time, the hymn was not particularly successful. It seems to have passed unnoticed and Newton never referred to it again in his diary.

Its great success was in America, where it was much more acceptable to express emotion in worship than in the rather formal services of the Church of England. By the 1830s, Amazing grace was being sung by all the American denominations.

In part, the success was aided by the addition of a tune to Newton's words. The tune which has become inseparable from Amazing Grace is an American folk tune, called New Britain. It was first linked to the words by William Walker in *The Southern Harmony*, published in 1835.

With wonderful irony, the tune almost certainly originated in the Afro-American culture of the American South. Thus, the coming together of the words of a repentant slave trader and the descendants of those he transported to America produced one of the world's favourite hymns. **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.**

**2nd July, 2017**

REVD PETER WEBB

**9th July, 2017**

Come to me. *Romans 7:15-25 and Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

**16th July, 2017**

The Parable of the Sower. *Romans 8:1-11 and Matthew 13:1-23*

**23rd July, 2017**

Jesus taught them in parables. *Romans 8:12-25 and Matthew 13:31-53*

**30th July, 2017**

REVD DR RUTH GOULDBOURNE

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**fellowship matters**

Edited for the Internet

## **CHRISTIAN AID WALK**

We are grateful to **Bonnie West** and **Jenny Capstick** for undertaking the walk – and for all who sponsored them. A total of **£270** was raised.



## **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 John 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 **Wednesday, 20th September** at 2.15 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Hiley Room.

The date of the last Church Meeting in 2017 is **Wednesday, 29th November**. All members are encouraged to attend.

## *The Baptist Times Round-up*

### **HOW ARE YOU FEELING?**

**Our emotions are important – but must always be subordinate to that day-by-day desire to know God and trust him – however we may be feeling.**

Do you like being praised? Go on, admit it! Don't we all? It makes us feel better about ourselves.

When I was a very young minister a man came to the church for a bit, and, Sunday after Sunday, he used to quite embarrass me by his overdone words. "Colin, how do you do it?" he asked me on one occasion, shaking his head in awestruck admiration. (Don't worry, I told myself very firmly that I wasn't to take this too seriously – though deep down I was grateful for the confirmation that I was, of course, the greatest preacher since Peter on the day of Pentecost). That man didn't last long – probably went off to some other church where he did the same to the minister there.

There's nothing wrong with praise, as long as it's sincere and balanced. (If the word 'praise' doesn't seem quite right, let's just say that we all need encouragement: is that better?) Do you, as a Christian, look for opportunities to give your fellow-Christians a bit of a boost with a genuine word of encouragement? How easy it is simply to take other people, and the contribution they make, for granted. I think there's a challenge for us all there.

I've been thinking about the woman who shouted out to Jesus in the crowd: As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "*Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.*" He replied, "*Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.*" (Luke 11:27-28).

Can you hear her? Can you picture her? She is expressing her praise on a purely emotional level – what a wonderful man you are! How I wish I had a son like you!

One commentary I looked at was, I thought, a bit hard on her. It described her words as "an extravagant compliment", "sheer sentimentality" and a "pious effusion". But is that fair? She has been listening to Jesus teaching some quite difficult things, and she is obviously impressed by his power, wisdom and boldness. Why shouldn't she give vent to this heartfelt, spontaneous outburst?

Perhaps she herself had a son. Perhaps a son who had been a sadness and disappointment to her. Can we blame her if, as she looked at Jesus, she felt this strong stirring in her heart?

Well, we can only speculate what was really going on inside this woman. But what we know for a fact is that Jesus was not inclined to preen himself when he heard her! His response wasn't exactly a put-down, but it was, let's say, a bucket of cold water: "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." Ouch.

As if to say: "Well, thank you very much. But please don't get carried away. What ultimately matters is not gushing feelings, however genuine they might be, but solid obedience to God and his word."

*Feelings* ... Tricky things aren't they? Some people, including Christians, seem to lack them, so they come across as cold and perhaps rather hard: Christianity is all about correct doctrine and right behaviour. This, surely, is sad.

But other people – the so-called 'touchy-feely' type – are at risk of going a bit 'over the top'. They think something's wrong if they aren't floating on a spiritual high every minute of every day. Which is equally tricky, for feelings are notoriously like the British weather: changeable and unreliable.

Thomas a Kempis, the 15th century monk who wrote the classic *The Imitation of Christ*, said: "Do not trust your feeling, for whatever it is now, it will be quickly changed into something else."

Yes, indeed: one day we may feel great, and think that that will never change; but the next day the grey clouds come rolling in and pull us right down.

There *is* feeling – sentiment – in Christian living, and that is as it should be. Our faith is all about love, after all; and while, yes, there is a lot more to love than feeling, it would be wrong to disregard it altogether – emotion is a vital part of human nature.

I've just been leafing through the *Good News Bible*, with its wonderful little pictures, and couldn't help smiling at the drawing that rounds off the Book of Psalms: no shortage of feeling there!

But feeling must always be subordinate to that day-by-day desire to know God, to trust him, and to walk with him in humble obedience – however we may be feeling. That is what matters most. That is true love. **COLIN SEDGWICK**

## ADDITION TO OUR ARCHIVE

Our thanks to **Dr John Black** of Henleaze for a valuable addition to our archive. He has given us a set of photocopies of some thirty documents detailing the appointment and service of the **Revd. D. J. Hiley\*** as a Chaplain to the 22nd Division during the First World War. We are extremely grateful to Dr Black for sharing his research with us.

Any member of the congregation wishing to study these documents should see **Philip Dickinson**.

\*Minister at Broadmead from 1893-1907.



### **Cholera prevention underway in Haiti after hurricane Matthew**

Over 23,000 people have been helped in Haiti following the devastation of Hurricane Matthew last October. Haiti was hit hard by Hurricane Matthew on 4th October, 2016. The storm caused more than 400 deaths and left a wave of destruction in one of the most fragile

There were fears that widespread flooding and poor sanitation following the disaster would spark an epidemic of cholera. In response, BMS World Mission, alongside Baptist partners, gave £46,696 to help provide cholera prevention.

The potential cholera epidemic was averted, with fewer reported cases than feared, thanks to a focus on prevention rather than just treatment.

“There was a real fear that, following Hurricane Matthew, cholera rates would rise drastically and cause even more devastation,” says Rachel Conway, a key member of BMS’ disaster relief co-ordination team. “But thanks to our donors and collaboration with partners on the ground, we have been able to stand with the people of Haiti and be a part of a really successful response.”

Over 23,000 people have been given the cholera vaccine in the south-western tip of Haiti. This means prevention efforts have reached over double the number of people initially predicted and over 90 per cent of the population in this southern region are now protected from this disease. 1,777 people have benefited from the cholera supplies that have been delivered to mobile health clinics in the area. Nearly a thousand hygiene kits and huge quantities of water purification tablets have also been distributed to those in need.

Thank you for your support of BMS relief efforts – because of your giving we were able to respond quickly and effectively to this disaster.

## SAVING MOTHERS AND BABIES IN AFGHANISTAN

**Afghanistan has some of the highest infant and maternal mortality rates in the world. That's why BMS World Mission is hard at work in Afghan communities to bring about lasting change.**

A blend of poor access to healthcare, unsafe practices and cultural barriers all contribute to the devastating statistics. BMS is helping to run a training programme in rural mountain communities to instruct on safe birthing practices. A big part of training is dispelling some of the common practices, many of which are dangerous to both mother and child and can lead to infection or even death. "It's not just about saying, 'this is wrong'," says BMS worker Tim\*. "It's more about saying 'this is safe'."

Involving men in the training has seen great success. Educating them about safe birthing practices is often vital to the survival of mother and baby. Tim remembers one woman who came to the course without her husband. She knew she should call for medical help when something went wrong in labour, but her husband disagreed, choosing to leave it to prayer. Sadly, the woman ended up dying.

There are many tragic stories like this in Afghanistan, but health education, made possible by your generous donations, is paving the way for a safer future for women and newborns in remote mountain villages.

One testimonial comes from a grandmother, Aliah\*. Her own daughter died during childbirth. "That's why I'm bringing my granddaughter to this course," she says. "If only I had known then what I know now." Today she is hopeful that her granddaughter has a far better chance of a healthy labour and childbirth. We want to see more mothers have the same hope.

\*Names changed

Please submit copy for the next edition of *The Record* any time **BEFORE SUNDAY, 16TH JULY**. 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*

## HYMNS QUIZ 3

*Here are two lines from hymns we use at Broadmead. Can you give the first line of the hymns? They are all taken from 'Baptist Praise and Worship' © the Psalms and Hymns Trust 1991.*

1. I was lost: but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,
2. Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:  
better than splendour or wealth.
3. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,
4. we are on the Lord's side;  
Saviour, we are thine.
5. yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.
6. and be this feast to us the token  
that by your grace our souls are fed.
7. until this earthly part of me  
glows with thy fire divine.
8. no outcasts, no favourites, no Gentile, no Jew,  
but one human family, united in you.
9. knowledge, all things, empty prove  
without heavenly love.
10. who, from our mother's arms,  
has blessed us on our way

### Answers to Mary, Jesus' Mother Quiz

1. Jn 19:25-27 'the disciple whom Jesus loved' (probably John).
2. Jn 2.12. John's Gospel.
3. Matt 2.13-14. Escape to Egypt from Herod.  
Matt 2.19-23 Return to Israel after Herod's death. Once there, Joseph was again warned in a dream to go and find a different home and went to Nazareth rather than Judea, where Herod's son ruled.
4. Lk 1.26-45. When Elizabeth is in her sixth month of pregnancy, and Mary has just agreed to become the mother of Jesus, after a visit from the angel Gabriel.
5. The Magnificat.
6. Acts 1.14. She is with his brothers and his disciples between the Ascension and Pentecost.
7. Matt 2.11 Magi – Matthew. Lk 2.16 Shepherds – Luke.
8. Matt 13.55. James, Joseph, Simon and Judas.
9. Mk 3.31-35 & Lk 8.19-21. Jesus said those who respond to his teaching and do God's will were his mother and brothers and sisters.
10. Lk 2.34-35. Simeon said a sword will pierce Mary's soul.

## **PRAYER AT BROADMEAD**

**Almighty God, we pray that you will behold this your family at Broadmead and guide us in our worship, prayer and daily living, that all may be for your glory. Amen**

### **2nd-8th July**

Dear Lord, as this country comes to grips with the results of the General Election and differing political views are expressed, we pray for leadership, wisdom and guidance for all MPs. We pray that the needs of the people will be foremost in the policies which are implemented, that the underprivileged and poor will have justice and that the Brexit and world-trade negotiations will be conducted with integrity.

### **9th-15th July**

Our Heavenly Father, on Sea Sunday, 9th July, we join Christians around the world to pray for seafarers and their families. We thank you for the Sailors' Society, the Seamen's missions and the Chaplains and ask for your blessing on them as they show the love of Jesus in their ministries. "O hear us when we cry to Thee, for those in peril on the sea."

### **16th-22nd July**

Loving Lord, as the academic year has ended we pray for all those involved in education that they may be refreshed by the summer break. We pray particularly for students whose future will be affected by their exam results and for teachers who are often under great stress due to funding cuts and changed policies. We pray for Scripture Union's summer missions, holidays and clubs – that children and young people may hear the Good News about Jesus Christ and respond to it.

### **23rd-29th July**

God of Peace, in the wake of the terrorist attacks we pray that the twisting of religion that leads people to commits such atrocities may be straightened out. By your healing presence, comfort those who mourn and those who are physically and mentally scarred. We give thanks for the police, the intelligence services, ambulance crews, doctors and nurses and all who helped to prevent or deal with such attacks.