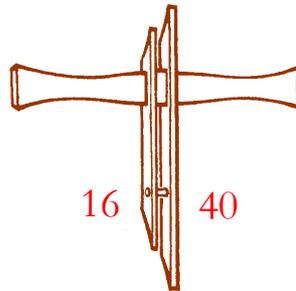


The RECORD

The Magazine of
BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH



*Mr Thomas Ewins
preaching
from the prison,
1664*



July, 2018

BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

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Minister: REV. JOHN HOUSEAGO, M.Th, M.A., B.Sc.
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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

HYMNS are an essential part of worship in the Baptist tradition. Over the years I have enjoyed preparing occasional short talks on hymns and their authors. To date I have only considered writers of past generations, so here is a short piece on a contemporary poet and hymn writer, Brian Wren.

Brian Wren was born in Romford and educated at Oxford University, where he gained a D. Phil in 1968. His undergraduate studies were in modern languages and then theology. His post-graduate studies focused on the Old Testament. He entered the ministry of the United Reformed Church in 1965 and served in pastorate until 1970. He left pastoral ministry to work for *People and Planet* and *War on Want* before returning to ministry. From 2000 until he retired in 2007 he was Conant Professor of Worship at Columbia Theological Seminary.

Ten of Brian Wren's hymns can be found in either *Praise for Today* or in *Baptist Praise and Worship*. The ones we sing most often are two fine communion hymns, *I come with joy to meet my Lord* and *Great God, your love has called us here* and hymns that have a seasonal flavour, *There's a spirit in the air* and *Christ upon the mountain peak*. The last of these is an all too rare hymn for the Transfiguration.

Great God, your love has called us here is a thoughtful invitation to the Lord's Supper. Verse one has the lovely expression "as we by love, for love were made." It goes on to consider the marred image of God found in humanity.

Verse two looks at the sources of our wrong doing, tracing it to a mixture of personal responsibility and societal pressure. "half-free, half-bound ... by social forces swept along." I suspect only a modern hymn would take the latter seriously, and this is an important insight. What forces control our lives?

Verse three is a modern equivalent of the Prayer of Humble Access. The closing words, "We strain to glimpse your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet", recall Jesus washing his disciple's feet, a theme continued in verse four. The disciples, and particularly Peter, were 'broken' and shamed by Jesus taking the bowl and towel to wash their feet. Wren suggests that we all need a similar experience if we are to participate in the Lord's Supper with a right attitude.

The last verse moves us into the life we live after Holy Communion and prepares us for continuing God's work in the world by sharing his renewing love. **JOHN HOUSEAGO**

Sermon themes

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

1st July, 2018

REVD DR KEITH CLEMENTS

8th July, 2018

Strength in Weakness. *2 Corinthians 12:2-10 and Mark 6:1-13*

15th July, 2018

Spiritual Blessings in Christ. *Ephesians 1:3-14 and Mark 6:14-29*

22nd July, 2018

One in Christ. *Ephesians 2:11-22 and Mark 6:30-34, 53-56*

29th July, 2018

VISIT OF CYNTHIA AND IAN CHADWELL

fellowship matters

Edited for the Internet

GOOD NEWS AT HOME AS WELL AS ABROAD

Our support for making known the Good News of Jesus Christ in the UK and overseas comes mainly from the mission envelopes, but there are other sources. The offerings taken up at the July Communion services are two of these – they are allocated to Baptist Union Home Mission, operating locally through the West of England Baptist Association.

Examples of Home Mission grants in the Bristol area are those to the churches at Stapleton, Chew Magna and Pill and to 'new expressions

of church' arising out of the former churches at St. George and Knowle West. Each are forming connections with their local communities and demonstrating the authenticity of the Good News by service to their neighbours. **DAVID LOVERIDGE**



CHURCH MEETING

The next Church Meeting is on **Wednesday, 19th September, 2018**, at 2.15 p.m. in the Hiley Room.

All members are encouraged to attend.

MORE ABOUT SERAMPORE

We record with gratitude the donation to the church archives of two handsome volumes: **THE LIFE AND TIMES OF CAREY, MARSHMAN AND WARD** by JOHN CLARK MARSHMAN, first published in London in 1859. This is a 2005 reprint by the Council of Serampore College.

It is a detailed account of the life and of these three key figures in the history of this missionary work in the sub-continent.

In addition is a three page article on **RAM ROHAM ROY** and his links with Broadmead through Marshman. The ornate tomb of this early socio-political activist is in Arnos Vale Cemetery. Our thanks to David Loveridge for this gift. **P. H. DICKINSON**

CHURCH REPORT 2017

When I come to write the Annual Report I think, “What can I say that is different?” Actually it is not necessarily what is different, but that we can be so thankful for; that our Lord has led us safely through another year; encouraged us to serve him; challenged us to trust him; and given us the faith to keep going, even though times are a bit tough and anxieties arise, knowing always that he is guiding us.

Week by week we have been lead by challenging preaching and thoughtful prayers; we have shared in joyous praise through our hymns, sending us out into each week with words of encouragement ringing in our ears. We thank our minister, John, for his leadership in our services, and also those who have led our worship in John’s absence: Revd Mark Detzler, Revd Peter Webb, Revd Dr Ruth Gouldbourne, Revd Michael Peat, Revd Peter Slee, Revd Ken Stewart, Revd Keith Clements, Revd Dr Helen Paynter, Revd Peter Hatton, Revd Kevin Durrant, Revd Roy Jenkins (who lead our Anniversary worship) and Mr Neville Lintern. Yet again, special thanks must go to Mr Neville Lintern. our fellow member, who stepped in at short notice on the occasions when our minister was unwell and also led us on several previously arranged dates. We thank them all for sharing in the ministry at Broadmead this year.

We thank our organists Maurice Willis and Martin Firth who have shown us the joy of music in worship throughout the year.

We are grateful to all who have shared in the many tasks that make the running of our worship possible. For those who have served refreshments after services. For all who have given flowers and those who have arranged them to bring beauty into the sanctuary week by week. Yet again your generosity in giving throughout the year has been amazing.

Our Food Bank box is still ongoing and the gifts are collected regularly by the organisers, with grateful thanks. Our gifts at the Harvest service also went to help those in need. Our monetary gifts from this service went to BMS World Mission.

We again sent Christmas cards to those who have been imprisoned for their faith and witness in their beliefs. Thanks to David Loveridge and Philip Dickinson for organising this.

Southern Brookes Community Charity again benefitted from our Christmas ‘Toy and Gift’ service. This charity supports families who are

experiencing difficult times.

Donations in lieu of postage from our internal Christmas post box went to support work with the homeless people in our area.

All this, along with giving to special appeals through the year, have received your support. We thank you again for your generosity.

Thank you to our Pastoral Care Team as they share with the minister in the care of those in need in our fellowship.

We thank Jack Appleton for another year of producing our church magazine 'The Record'. For the good read it gives us through its interesting articles and news.

The Undercroft is still a popular oasis of peace for its visitors. Many thanks to the dedicated 'Crofters' who have seen us cope in a year of staff shortages. But we are still open which, after approximately 35 years, is good going.

Revd Andy Sewell, the City Centre Chaplain, was called to pastures new in Tewkesbury in September. He will be sorely missed. We look forward to hearing from the City Centre Chaplaincy Trust on their plans for the future of the Chaplaincy.

Our guest congregations Kensington BC3, the Christian Light Centre, and Jesus City Centre Mission (Filipino Church) have enjoyed our facilities yet again this year. We have shared in several services with BC3 and there is a real joy in sharing in these services.

BC3 have also arranged the front window of the church for us, with artistic flair and they continue to lead City Prayers on a Tuesday lunchtime. We thank them for their input in church life here at Broadmead.

Thank you to Phil Dickinson who organises and leads school visits to the church. These visits are popular with the students. We have received very grateful letters from the schools involved. It's good to know that the great history of this church is of such interest in schools today.

Yet again our premises have been used by an amazing array of organisations; theatre groups, choirs, care groups, public meetings with Council members, help groups retirement groups, businesses, the list goes on. Enabling others to use our facilities takes a great deal of preparation, cleaning and time. We thank our Chapel Steward Ken McNally and his wife Lindsay for their hard work and especially for the warm welcome

they afford to these groups on our behalf. We also congratulate Ken on being accepted into College for part-time training for ministry on the Methodist circuit.

Broadmead Baptist Church faces challenges in 2018. Our minister, John, hopes to retire. Therefore a great deal of discussion needs to take place regarding our future. Please remember the Officers, Deacons, Pastoral Care Team and Trustees in your prayers at this very important time.

In closing may I again thank our minister, John, for his understanding, care and guidance through this present year, and of course over the last twenty or so years.

Our prayers are with you as you plan for what we hope will be a long and enjoyable retirement for Ros and yourself.

Thank you. **ELIZABETH GODDARD**

The Baptist Times Round-up

DV? TO PLAN, OR NOT TO PLAN

A reflection on why we need to plan ahead – and some thoughts on how best to do it. By Colin Sedgwick

I can just about remember, from my childhood, posters that might go up on a church notice-board advertising a forthcoming meeting: for example, “Friday, 6th July at 7.30 p.m. D.V”.

D.V? - what on earth does that mean? Answer: it’s short for two Latin words, *deo volente*, “God willing” (say *dayo volenty*). The people advertising the meeting were definitely hoping, indeed expecting, that it would go ahead as planned; but they didn’t want to take anything for granted. God, after all, might have other ideas and the meeting might never happen. So they felt the need to cover themselves, so to speak.

To most of us today this seems old-fashioned to the point of being rather quaint; we might be tempted to smile.

But if it’s a fault, perhaps it’s not a bad fault to have.

As Paul brings his first letter to the Corinth church to an end he outlines some of the plans he has for the future, especially in regard to visiting them: “I hope to spend some time with you, *if the Lord permits*”. Whoever wrote the Letter to the Hebrews speaks in very much the same way about the need for Christians to move towards real

maturity of faith: “*And God permitting, we will do so.*” (Hebrews 6:3). My wife and I spent a few minutes the other day looking ahead in our diaries to see what we might expect in the coming months: responsibilities we have committed ourselves to; holidays we hope to enjoy; visits we plan to make; events we expect to be involved in. But although we never actually spoke the words “God willing”, that thought was always there in our minds – these things, for all we know, may never happen.

Another memory from my very early days as a Christian was people who didn’t think you should plan ahead at all.

These were days when many Christians were still reading the King James Version of the Bible – and didn’t Jesus clearly tell his disciples that they should “*take no thought for the morrow*” (Matthew 6:34)? Quite right: but what they didn’t realise (and, to be fair, why should they?) was that the word Jesus used is better translated “don’t take any *anxious* thought”, “don’t *worry* about the future.” (The people I’m thinking of weren’t, of course, true to their own resolve, for life would simply be unliveable if we literally never thought about what was coming and made sensible plans accordingly.)

Where does this lead us? I suggest four things.

First, the most obvious one: *let’s not be afraid to plan ahead.* We’ve seen that Paul and the Writer to the Hebrews did. Still more, so did Jesus – see, for example, John 7:1-11.

Second, *let’s always plan prayerfully.* As we shape our plans for the future our over-riding concern must always be to stay within the will of God: never mind what I want, what does God want? There are times when various options in front of us seem very attractive, but they may lead us away from God, even if they are not sinful in themselves. I wonder if anyone reading this is teetering on the brink of an unwise decision about the future? Be careful! – you could spend a long time regretting it.

Third, *plan in light of the fact that it may never happen.* It was, I think, the sixteenth century devotional writer Thomas a Kempis who wrote: “Man proposes, but God disposes”, and he was right. (Of course, the Bible had got there first: “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.” (Proverbs 19:21).)

Even perfectly good plans may never happen: that godly Christian who collapses and dies of a heart attack at 10.30 one morning no

doubt had plans for that day...

Fourth, *plan in faith*. God is your heavenly Father, and he loves you. Trust him, then, even if you feel afraid – indeed, all the more if you feel afraid. Remember the very simple words of the song: “I don’t know what the future holds, but *I know who holds the future*.”

Oh, and here’s a word I direct first and foremost to myself, because in this respect I am the most miserable of miserable failures...

If something happens to interfere with your carefully laid out plans, smile and pray to see it not just as an interruption or a nuisance, but as a God-given opportunity. Who knows what good might come of it. Whatever, *at all times remember DV*.

THE BRAIN DRAIN NEW TESTAMENT CHARACTERS QUIZ

Can you name these characters from the New Testament? Where there are 2 or 3 names to give, that counts as 2 or 3 answers! (based on NIV, © 1984 by the International Bible Society)

- 1-3. There are 3 Philips mentioned in the New Testament. Who were they?
4. Which writer wrote from the island of Patmos?
- 5-6. When Barnabas and Paul fell out at Antioch over whom to take along as assistant in their preaching, who went with Barnabas and who with Paul?
7. Which brother referred to elsewhere in the New Testament as “my true son in our common faith” does Paul mention frequently in 2 Corinthians?
- 8-10. There are 3 James mentioned in the New Testament, not including the writer of the letter of James. Who were they?

ANSWERS TO WHO CAME FIRST QUIZ?

Rebekah (Isaac’s Wife, Gen 24.15); Esau (First Twin, Gen 25.24); Jacob (Second Twin, Gen 25.24); Jethro (Moses’ Father-in-Law, Ex 3.4); Balaam (And his Donkey, Num 22.5); Deborah (Prophetess, Jdg 4.22); Samson (Jdg 13.24); Naomi (Ruth 1.4); Nathan (Prophet, 2 Sam 7.2), Elijah (Prophet, 1 Ki 17.1); Josiah (King, found book in temple, 2 Ki 22.1); and Belshazzar (King, writing on wall at feast, Dan 5.1).

PRAYER AT BROADMEAD

Loving Father, as we start a new week, we pray that we will be aware of your presence with us. Help us to hold fast in faith and trust to you. AMEN

1st - 7th July

O Lord, you know each of us and our petitions. You know each house and its needs. Receive us all into your kingdom. Make us children of light, and bestow your peace and love upon us. (St. Basil)

We pray for the people surrounding our building, for shoppers, for workers struggling in the retail sector, for those who sleep on the streets, for those who resort to crime and violence and for those who damage themselves and others by their addictions.

8th - 14th July

Dear Lord, we don't always understand your plan or recognise it as good, but help us to trust you, praise you and seek your will. Sometimes we see only problems; help us also to see opportunities. We pray for the Deacons, the Chapel Trust and the whole church during the coming months. Help us to follow your leading and stand firm in the fellowship you have given us.

15th - 21st July

Almighty God, we entrust those who are dear to us to your un-failing care, knowing that you are doing better for them than we can desire or pray for. When baffled by their illness and problems show us how we can help and support them. Surround them with your peace and love we pray. AMEN

22nd - 28th July

Loving Lord, as children and young people break up from their schooling, we ask that being released from examination pressures they will enjoy their summer holidays. May they relax from routine study. May they also be less reliant on I.T. devices for their leisure pursuits and more aware of the wonderful world around them! Bless all teachers and help them to recharge their batteries after their demanding work. AMEN

BACK FROM NEPAL

This summer our overseas mission links Cynthia and Ian Chadwell will be returning to the UK after their service in Nepal. Cynthia and Ian went to Nepal as singles in the 1990's and married in 1996. They went back with their children Justin and Lucy in 2006 to serve with BMS World Mission.

Cynthia has worked with a teacher training organisation, with womens' groups and with the Sunday School at their Nepali church – in Nepal worship takes place on Saturdays! She has also trained as a 'facilitator' in the 'International Child Development Programme' (which aims to improve communication and relationships between children and their carers).

After working to raise the standards of mission and government hospitals Ian was appointed Healthcare Management Consultant to the Nick Simons Institute, a Non-Governmental Organisation seeking to improve rural healthcare. The focus of NSI is on government district hospitals. Visits to these often involved long journeys to remote locations over challenging roads! Ian has been active in the Health Christian Fellowship (which links Christians serving in the Nepali health sector) and he and Cynthia have both stressed the working out of faith in everyday life.

Following tuition in Kathmandu, Justin will be starting at university this autumn and Lucy will commence sixth form studies. We wish them both continuing success.

Now that the family's service in Nepal is ending we thank them for keeping us so well informed about their activities and the wide range of missionary work. We are very glad that we will have an opportunity to express our thanks directly when they visit us on Sunday, 29th July.

THANKS

Thanks go to **Jenny Capstick** and **Bonnie West** for their sponsored walk round the harbour for Christian Aid Week – and to the sponsors, whose donations amounted to **£295.00**. Further support for Christian Aid came from the NHS Retirement Fellowship. We thank its members for the offering of **£109.75** at their Annual Service.

Thanks to missionary box holders who raised **£83.41** between September last year and March this year.

Please submit copy for the next edition of *The Record* any time **BEFORE SUNDAY, 15TH 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*
