

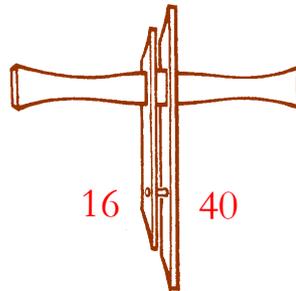
The RECORD

The Magazine of
BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH



*Mr Thomas Ewins
preaching
from the prison,
1664*

DRAWING BY SPOT REPRODUCED IN BRISTOL EVENING WORLD, 15-10-90



July, 2019

BROADMEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

1 Whippington Court, The Horsefair
Bristol BS1 3HY Tel. 0117 929-1387

Moderator: Revd Gary Woodall

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.)

‘COME FOLLOW ME’

OVER this past year we have spent time together looking back and reflecting and giving thanks for what God has done amongst the people at Broadmead. We have reflected on where we are as a community of God’s people at Broadmead in 2019 and at our last church meeting we spent time together considering where might God be calling the congregation to go in for the next part of the journey for Broadmead Baptist Church.

Change for all of us is never easy and often not comfortable, but to keep in step with God it is inevitable. The people of God had to leave Egypt, fearful of the unknown. They had to cross the Red Sea not knowing how it was going to happen. Yes, they did spend time in the desert wondering and complaining, only because they were not prepared to take hold of the promises of God. Eventually they came to the place of acceptance and trusting God. They entered God’s promised land and discovered that although there were battles to be fought, it was even better than they ever had imagined.

This is only part of the story of the people of God. Remember the changes required by Noah, Abraham, David? All of these had to be prepared to listen and be prepared to change direction and go where God was leading. The New testament reveals that God still requires His people to be prepared to make changes and go His way.

What about: Paul, John and young Timothy? All had to be prepared to let go of things which they held dear in order that the work of God could move forward.

So, should we be surprised that the God of the Old and New Testament should also require us to make changes for His work here at Broadmead, to move forward and be even more effective? As we look to the future as a congregation of God’s people, let’s trust God together and be open to His leading and be surprised at His goodness.

Let’s not forget the past and the lessons learnt; let us never let go of those things which are essential to our being and most importantly never let go or even change the direction of our gaze from Jesus Christ.

Remember “let us fix our eyes on Jesus ... consider Him” as we look to the future, exciting and fearful times. **GARY WOODALL**

Preachers for the month

7th July, 2019

11 a.m. REVD. GARY WOODALL

14th July, 2019

11 a.m. JOINT SERVICE BROADMEAD/BC3

21st July, 2019

11 a.m. REVD. PETER HATTON

28th July, 2019

11 a.m. MR. NEVILLE LINTERN

fellowship matters

Edited for the Internet

*Church
Flowers*

7th July	—
14th July	Jenny Capstick
21st July	Carole and David Loveridge
28th July	Jack Appleton <i>(in memory of Pam)</i>

Please submit copy for the next edition of *The Record* any time **BEFORE SUNDAY, 14TH 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*

CHURCH REPORT 2018

A.G.M. 22nd May 2019

2018 was a year of changes and challenges coupled with much anxiety and uncertainty about the future on which way to turn. Thankfully in all this our faith in our wonderful Saviour has supported us. It feels sometimes that we are walking through a haze, but our trust is in Him.

Revd John Houseago, our minister for 21 years, announced his retirement to take effect in September 2018; a fact being that the health of Ros, John's wife, was a great worry which concerned John and the family greatly, and the whole church family. Thankfully a major operation was performed on Ros at the beginning of September surrounded by much prayer. It is so good to see Ros back to good health and able to return to work. What an answer to prayer.

We held a farewell service and tea on September 29th for John and Ros (sadly Ros was not able to attend). The afternoon was a joy to be part of. We were able to present John with a cheque, gifts and flowers showing our love and gratitude to both him and Ros for all they meant to us. We realised that John was not keen on big occasions, so I feel we were able to keep the occasion, as several people described it, as a 'Family Occasion'.

With John's retirement we needed to appoint a moderator, and the Revd Gary Woodall accepted our invitation to take on this role. We thank him for this and for his guidance and wisdom in leading us forward. Accepting our sadness in losing John and Ros, but being positive that the future is in God's hands, and preparing us for obvious changes that will need to take place to keep a strong Baptist presence in the City Centre and for all that that work involves. Officers and Deacons have shared many meetings to start the process of preparation for the future guided by our Moderator.

As in previous years our services have been led by visiting ministers in John's absence, we thank them all warmly. Revd Gary Woodall, Revd Mark Detzler, Revd Ken Stewart, Revd Peter Hatton, Revd Dr Helen Paynter, Revd Maki Mico, Mr Neville Lintern, Revd Peter Webb, Revd Dr Stephen Finamore, Mr Neil Redwood, Revd

Gordon Hindmarch who conducted our Anniversary Service, Mr Ken McNally, Revd Martin Smith, Mr Malcolm Kinch, Ian and Cynthia Chadwell our BMS missionary partners, Revd Keith Clements, Revd Kevin Durrant, Revd Peter Slee, and Revd Dr Michael Peat. A special thank you must go to our fellow member Mr Neville Lintern who has led us on many occasions, sometimes at short notice. Thank you so much.

We have shared in several united services with BC3 where the fellowship has been good. In May, we were delighted to share in a Baptismal service with them. We thank Revd Mark Detzler and the whole of the BC3 fellowship for their help and sharing in the many tasks that keep Broadmead Baptist Church running.

The Filipino Church (JCCM) and the Christian Light Church still enjoy using our premises for their Sunday afternoon services.

Our witness during the week is huge with hundreds of people using our premises for their meetings and gatherings. In all this work we are greatly indebted to our church steward and his wife for keeping the church fresh and clean, and welcoming our visitors on our behalf and caring for their needs. Thank you Ken and Lindsay for all your hard work and care for our church.

Undercroft is still open Tuesday to Friday each week. Our numbers have fallen, but we still feel it's a worthwhile service. Staffing is difficult, our prayer is that we can keep going until perhaps something more needy requires our support. Please remember the Undercroft in your prayers.

We have many people to thank for the smooth running of Church life: For those who provide refreshments on Sunday; To Edwina for the flower displays Sunday by Sunday; To those who organise and prepare Communion; To BC3 for keeping our front window displays eye-catching.

We thank our Trustees for their work in keeping the church building in good shape.

We thank Jack Appleton the editor of the *'Record'*, our church magazine. We encourage members to support the magazine in perhaps writing an article of interest occasionally.

Thank you to our Pastoral Care Team for their caring of members of

the Church and Congregation.

We thank the Officers and Deacons as we work together to prepare our future here at Broadmead.

We thank everyone for their generosity in giving in many ways. Not only to our Sunday offertory, but also to Emergency appeals when they arise, our food-bank box, our Harvest appeal, for the ACAT Christmas card signing, and for the many gifts and toys we send to the Southern Brookes Charity at Christmas, to distribute to needy families. Thank you.

As I close I again thank Revd Gary Woodall for his leadership and encouragement as our Moderator. Thank you for your time and energy given so generously.

Our prayer is that our Lord will guide us into a bright and fruitful future that may see lives brought to Him through our witness here in the City Centre of Bristol.

Thank you. **ELIZABETH GODDARD**

LITTLE LINKS IN A LONG CHAIN

By Colin Sedgwick

When Jesus saw that he (a teacher of the law) answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." Mark 12:34

"Well, I'm not a Muslim any more."

So said the young man who was cutting my hair. I had been going to him and his friends for a number of years; they ran a little hairdressers' business near where we lived.

A barber's chair isn't a bad place to have a friendly chat (as long, of course, as his name isn't Sweeney Todd). Occasionally barbers say hardly a word except to ask you how you want your hair; but usually I find them to be friendly and quite chatty.

An obvious topic of conversation is what job you do; so, for me, that's a wide open door for witness, because I can simply say

“I’m a minister in the church.” The young men I went to were all, I think, Iraqi Kurds, and very open to talking about religion. And, of course, they were Muslims.

Over the years I had had good conversations with one particular young man. To my shame I can’t now remember his name, but I think it may have been Hassan, so I’ll call him that.

When we first talked he was a loyal though not particularly devout Muslim, but he took a serious interest in what I believed. On one occasion, I asked if he had ever read the New Testament. The answer was no, because he couldn’t read English. Would he like me to get him a Kurdish New Testament? Yes, he said. So, with the help of the Bible Society, I did just that – with a friendly finger-wagging, “You will read it, won’t you?” He assured me he would, and every time I saw him after that he told me he was continuing to do so.

Then one day he told me this would be the last time he would be cutting my hair – he had decided to head back to Iraq so as to be closer to his aging, widowed mother. I told him how sorry I was and assured him of my prayers. Then, taking the bull by the horns, I asked him straight out if he had yet decided to become a Christian.

Which was when he said what I started with, “Well, I’m not a Muslim any more.” Which meant, of course, that he was *on the move...*

That was the last time I saw him, and I have occasionally wondered what became of him. Especially, did he ever make the decision to follow Jesus? Did he ever link up with a church in Iraq? Had he kept up reading that Bible? Had he reverted to Islam?

I don’t know. And I suppose I never will, not at least in this life. But I’m glad of the contact I had with him.

Why am I telling this story? Not, please be assured, to show myself up as some sort of super-evangelist. Far from it! We all know how difficult it can be to introduce the topic of ‘religion’ without coming across clumsy or embarrassing. But people like

me – people in ‘full-time ministry’ – have an easy head-start. If somebody, while clipping your eyebrows, asks you what you do, well, it’s difficult not to be a witness, isn’t it?

No. My experience simply reminds us that in day-to-day evangelism each of us may very well be *just a very small link in a very long chain*.

The experience of American evangelist Tony Campolo is extremely rare. As he was strapping himself into his seat on board a plane, the man sitting next to him, a total stranger, turned to him and declared in troubled tones, “Mister, *I need God!*” As Campolo drily remarked “I could have wished for something a little more direct, but there you go...”

We would all love to be used by God to bring people to Christ in one fell swoop. But that just isn’t the way it is: conversion is almost always a process rather than a one-off event.

Remember how Jesus treated the “teacher of the law” who questioned him about the commandments of God, and which one is “the most important” (Mark 12:28-34). He doesn’t say anything particularly startling or original, but he clearly strikes a chord with Jesus, who tells him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” “Not far”: like Hassan, he was *on the move*.

People are on a journey, and God alone knows the exact point they have reached. Our role, therefore, is simply to say or do something – perhaps just to *be* something – that might nudge them a little further along.

I hope I may have done that with Hassan: as I put it earlier, be a link in a chain. I can only pray that someone in Iraq will have the joy of bringing him openly to full-blown faith in Christ. Will you join me in praying for him?

And will you look out daily for the Hassans in your life?

Lord Jesus, as I go about my daily business please help me to be a link in the chain of somebody’s life, a sower of seed in somebody’s heart. Amen. e-mail: sdgonline.worldpress.com

HYMNS WE KNOW QUIZ

Here are pairs of lines from hymns we know – or think we know. Can you recognise them and give their first lines? All from Baptist Praise and Worship © the Psalms and Hymns Trust 1991.

- 1 we drink of you, the fountain head,
our thirsty souls from you to fill.
- 2 he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.
- 3 I need your presence every passing hour;
what but your grace can foil the tempter's power?
- 4 O fire so masterful and bright,
giving to all both warmth and light,
- 5 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all men that we receive;
- 6 Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;
why do they roam?
- 7 Be thou my true riches, not man's empty praise;
be thou my inheritance, now and always;
- 8 by powers and systems close confined
yet seeking hope for humankind.
- 9 O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
- 10 Hear Christ call
one and all:
those who follow shall not fall.

ANSWERS TO BIBLICAL RELATIVES QUIZ

- 1 Elizabeth, Luke 1.13; 2 Abraham, Genesis 18-25;
3 Enoch and Enosh, Genesis 4ff; 4 Orpah, Ruth 1.14-15;
5 They were the same person, Esther 2.7; 6 Simon of Cyrene, Mark 15.21; 7 Lazarus and Mary, John 11.1-3; 8 Jesus, Matthew 14.55; 9 Shem, Ham and Japheth, Genesis 9.18;
10 Jonathan and King Saul, 2 Samuel 9.6.

PRAYER AT BROADMEAD

*Come to me, all who labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.
(Matthew 11.28)*

30th June - 6th July

I was a stranger and you welcomed me. (Matthew 25.35)

Christ our Lord, who as a baby became a refugee, we ask for the gifts of wisdom and compassion to be given to those who have to make difficult decisions regarding the future of those who have fled here from their own country. We are glad that Bristol has been designated a City of Sanctuary and give thanks for all those who give advice and practical help to people who may have left their homes to escape from unimaginable suffering. Amen

7th - 13th July

Heavenly Father, we think of those who have been scarred for life by the abuse that they have suffered and pray for counsellors who provide emotional support and seek to bring mental and spiritual healing. We pray for the *Baptists Together Safeguarding Team* who help churches, associations and colleges to fulfil their safeguarding responsibilities by providing training and resources as well as specialist advice. Amen

14th - 20th July

Sunday is 'Sea Sunday'. We pray, Lord, that you will ease the loneliness of seafarers who face danger and long periods of isolation from their families. Bless agencies such as Mission to Seafarers which offer practical, emotional and spiritual support. We give thanks for the RNLi and for the women and men who risk their own lives to save the lives of those in peril on the sea. Amen

21st - 27th July

Dear Lord, we pray for vision to see how we can spread the wonderful message of forgiveness and salvation to those who do not know you. We see the thousands of people who pass the doors of our church who have little knowledge of you or choose to ignore you. Break into their hearts and minds we pray. Amen

CHRISTIAN AID SPONSORED WALK

A big thank you to Bonnie and Jenny who enabled **£195** to be raised with their sponsored walk and thanks also to those who sponsored them. In addition we are grateful to the NHS Retirement Fellowship who once again wished that the offering at their Annual Service, **£107**, should be given to Christian Aid, making a grand total of **£302**.