



Lent Rise Matters – the info sheet for Lent Rise Methodist Church



Sunday Services:

Every Sunday 10:30am

Third Sunday Holy Communion 10:30am Rev Vicci Davidson

First Sunday Evening Worship 6:30pm Rev Vicci Davidson

Wednesday Morning:

Last Wednesday each month 11:00am Rev'd Vicci Davidson –
A short service for our community

Minister: Rev Vicci Davidson Tel: 01753 511421
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For general questions: info@burnhammethodistchurch.com

Services in the coming weeks:

Sunday 22nd March 10:30am Deacon Margaret Chipandambira

Sunday 29th March 10:0am Liz Tottingham

Prayer Cards

If you would like to ask for prayer for a specific person or event, please complete a prayer card, to be found on the table at the entrance to the Church.

Please hold in your prayers: Marilyn, David and Lizzie, Jo and Andrew, Pat, Julia, Sheila, Stefan, The Toffa family, Ed, Hannah, Eleni, the Tindall family, David Chant, Kim



If you are new here today and would like to keep in touch please look out for one of our yellow Welcome Cards, enter your details and hand the card to a Steward.

We heard last week about the passing of Jo Eden who many of us know from multiple interests around the village. Her funeral will take place St Peter's Church, Burnham at 2:30pm on Wednesday 1st April.

This week in Burnham Methodist Church:

Monday Club for Senior Citizen's from Burnham Community Association.

Wednesday The Meeting Place from The Well@Lent Rise from 9:30am – 12midday. A place for all ages to come and simply be, with coffee or tea, cake and a special warm welcome.

Thursday CAMEO lunch club for Senior Citizen's from 12:00midday. For more information or to book please speak to Jo Webb.

Friday 10:00am Bible Study led by Rev'd Vicci next meeting will be in February 27th.

Friday 10-30 finishing by 2 pm, The Well@Lent Rise Light lunch club. hosted by Kim (07469879199 for further details).

Geese is the Circuit youth group for discussion over food. This is a free activity for anyone in the circuit aged 10 - 18 and is led by Vicci and Sophie at Windsor Methodist Church from 6 - 7:30 pm on alternate Fridays. The next meeting is Friday 27th February.

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Dates for your diary

Saturday 4th April - Burnham Toddlers Easter Party – following on from the successful Christmas party organised jointly between Ourselves, St Mary's and St Peter's Toddler groups

where we welcomed over 90 people, we will be hosting the Easter party which will include an Easter Garden in the Church, Rev'd Josh from St Peter's will do a short talk, there will be an egg hunt and various craft activities....and of course teas and coffees. If you would like to get involved please talk to Pauline.

Message from Rev'd Vicci:

At our recent Church Councils, I floated the idea of putting out a pre-recorded service each week, which would, initially at least, be led by me. The idea is that I will record prayers, sermon and Bible readings in our various churches without a congregation present, and then edit them together with hymns sung by the congregation of the relevant church. I would then hope to put up weekly services coming from different churches within the section on YouTube with links from our church websites. In order to do this, it would be helpful to arrange a day in each church where members of the congregation will come and sing all their favourite hymns, allowing me to record around 20 hymns in each church, which will leave us a good bank of hymns to get started with. I am suggesting a Saturday afternoon, 2 - 4:30 with singing 2 - 3; tea 3 - 3:30 and singing 3:30 - 4:30. As a starting point, I have identified three Saturdays where I am available and wondered if you could let me know which of these are available for your church and/or congregation as far as you know. Ideally I hope to use one date for each church, so please let me know all availability

* 11th April * 13th June * 4th July

Either by responding to Pauline or using the sign up sheet in Church.

Thought for the week

Friends

On March the 22nd each year, people around the world celebrate "Goof off Day" – a day to take a break from the stresses and strains of life and embrace playfulness and fun. You might like to plan a day of fun activities, gathering friends or relatives and go to the cinema or a theme park, play crazy golf or go on a scavenger hunt. You could watch funny movies or dress up in amusing costumes, or take a walk or have a picnic. It doesn't matter. What does matter is that we take a break and spend the day doing something we enjoy. Playfulness and laughter are essential for our mental health and wellbeing and this day is a reminder to prioritise these things.

God of course, thought that this was much more important than just one day a year, and invented a day off a week. Unless we actually believe that God, the creator of everything, got tired, then I think we have to see the Sabbath as the seventh act of creation. Humans of course, messed with it. Genesis 2:2-3 tells us: And on the seventh day, God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

It's a great shame that the Pharisees and then the Puritans understood this to mean that no fun should be had. Surely there is a difference between not working and sitting there doing nothing all day. I think Jesus would approve of the occasional goofing off. After all, he was happy to sit light to the Sabbath when it meant that someone would no longer suffer, and surely there is something to be said about our own need for rest and relaxation to avoid our own suffering. This Sunday, I am goofing off in a very particular way. I am preaching in the morning, but then I am joining the Anglicans to sing Stainer's Crucifixion. We are rehearsing at the Parish Church, having a gap to attend Evensong at St. Georges, and then coming back to sing the Crucifixion as an act of worship. It might not be everyone's idea of a relaxing day but I shall enjoy it.

Whatever you decide to do this week, remember to put in some time for fun – your spirit will thank you for it.

God bless, Vicci

Prayers and Prayer Pointers For This Week

Monday 23rd March

- A cup of tea:
- When you have a drink of tea/coffee (or your favourite hot beverage) pay attention to the hospitality you have received over a cuppa over the years. Give thanks for conversations held, comforting words and companionable silences. Ask God how you in turn can offer hospitality to others.

Tuesday 24th March

- Living, loving God, today I pray for all who are going through a challenging time at the moment, in their own lives.
 - In the stillness, I call the names of those known to me who need to sense the light of your love today... *[You might like to pray aloud for those known to you who need prayer today. If you find it helpful, you could write the names down. If its appropriate, you might like to let someone know that you prayed for them today.]*
- Amen.

Wednesday 25th March

- Thanksgiving throughout the day:
- Try to be attentive to the time during your day. On every hour and half hour pause, whether you're at home, work or simply out and about, and take notice of what you're doing. It may be doing the ironing. It may be watching the telly. It may be sending an email. It may be snoozing under a blanket.
- Whatever it is - give thanks to God for the technology that enables it, the blessings it brings, the people you encounter through it. Do this throughout your day and count your blessings.

Thursday 26th March

- Rest a while and settle yourself into a comfortable position. Pay attention to your breathing. Breathe as slowly as you're able and try to find a rhythm. As you breathe in accept the love and goodness of God as yours. As you breathe out press your fears and worries into Gods hands.
- Try to do this in a thought through way until it becomes almost natural. It will find its own end.

Friday 27th March

- Take a look out of your nearest window. What do you see? The natural earth, the spaces we live in, the vehicles we move around in the paths we walk on, are made from the source that is God.
- Share with your creator God all the things you marvel at and are bothered by. Ask how you best enable others to do the same.

Saturday 28th March

- Tomorrow is Palm Sunday, which perhaps raises two important questions:
 - o Who or what are you worshipping / praising at the moment?
 - o Where do your loyalties lie?
- As you sing Hallelujah with the fickle crowd of Palm Sunday, may you come to know a deeper, more resilient faith in Christ our Saviour.

Many of us are shopping online these days and the Church has signed up to a site through which some of our most loved retailers will give us a donation every time we shop.

Sign up and help us raise funds by:

1. Visit the link below Search for Burnham Methodist Church
2. Your favourite brands will donate when you shop with them. This includes Booking.com; ebay; M&S; Curry's; TUI; BT and John Lewis www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause