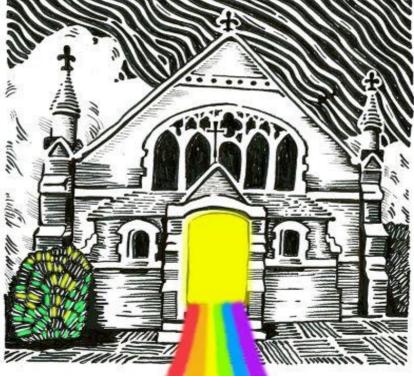


HOCKLEY & HAWKWELL METHODIST CHURCH HAS REOPENED FOR WORSHIP & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE EVERY WEEK AT 11.15 AM



23rd May 2021

No. 100 8dition 237

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Rev. Calvin Samuel's Pastoral Letter

This Sunday we return to worship in our building, on the Feast of Pentecost. Along with Easter, Ascension and Christmas, Pentecost is one of the four great Festivals of the Church. Pentecost is significant for multiple reasons.



First, it marks the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church and indeed all creation. God's Holy Spirit has always been present, of course, even before creation. Nonetheless, Pentecost marks the beginning of a new era, when the Spirit is poured out in fullness. The Church was birthed in that moment and so Pentecost is a reminder that from first to last the Church of Christ is enabled by the Spirit.

Second, Pentecost is a moment of fuller revelation of God. As the incarnation of Jesus revealed something of God the Son so the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost revealed something of God the Holy Spirit and in so doing helped to lay further foundations for our doctrine of the Trinity.

The doctrine of the Trinity is not merely a complicated belief that Christians hold, it's our best attempt at trying to express who God is. And there are few things more intimate than revealing to others who we really are. It's not surprising, therefore, that Trinity Sunday immediately follows Pentecost and Ascension Sunday in the Church calendar. The Ascension of Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost reveal something of who God is.

Third, Pentecost is a reminder that our call to discipleship is also a call to mission, for which we must be empowered by the Holy Spirit. In Acts 1.8 Jesus' final words to his disciples before his ascension were these: "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost enabled the Church to be witnesses to Jesus. Where we are ineffective in our witness to Jesus we might also usefully ask how far we have experienced being filling with the Spirit. The fullness of the Spirit is not reserved for advanced level Christians. Being filled with the Spirit is for all Christians, to enable us to be witnesses to Jesus.

Fourth and finally, Pentecost is a moment of enormous inclusion. Pentecost isn't merely God at work at a macro level as the Spirit is poured out on the Church it's God at work at a micro level, God's Spirit at work in individuals.

On the day of Pentecost the sound of a mighty rushing wind filled the room and a tongue of flame rested on each person gathered. There is something wonderfully inclusive about that image. No person is left out. Each individual has the fire of the Spirt rest on them.

When those disciples who were filled with the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost began to speak in other tongues that too is a picture of inclusion for the pilgrims to Jerusalem from around the world heard the disciples declaring God's deeds of power in each of their mother tongues.

Moreover, when Peter goes on to preach he reminds his hearers of the prophecy of Joel in which God promises to pour out the Spirt on all flesh. Notice the inclusive picture painted: sons and daughters, young and old, even male and female slaves, no one is left out.

Pentecost is not only about the big picture of a fuller revelation of God, the Church being birthed, or empowering the Church for mission. As important as the big picture is, Pentecost is also about individuals and God's care for the things that matter for us personally.

For reasons like these Pentecost is not only important as a significant moment in the Church calendar. It's also important as a significant moment in our individual lives. Christians have long been aware of the importance of having a personal Pentecost. Paul's encounter with the risen Christ on the Road to Damascus in Acts 9, for example, which utterly changed his life, was in many ways his personal Pentecost. When the God–fearing household of Cornelius heard Peter preach to them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit in Acts 10, that was their personal Pentecost. For many Methodists we recall how John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, felt his heart strangely warmed on the 24th of May 1738, as in some ways his personal Pentecost.

Pentecost is therefore not only a historic festival where we look back to the birthday of the Church. It's also a reminder to look forward to our own experience of the power of Holy Spirit to transform our lives so that we fulfil God's purposes in the world.

Empowering Spirit please fall on us afresh this Pentecost. Fill our sails with your mighty rushing wind so that you can send us wherever you will to be witnesses to your love and grace. Set our hearts and minds and bodies ablaze with your tongues of fire so that our lives bear the fruit of that God revealed as pillar of fire. And fill our mouths with tongues of praise so that others, including those not yet known to us. may hear from our lips, and see in our lives. the might works of God. Give us a personal Pentecost, we prav. not so that we may boast but that we may be witnesses to our risen Lord. Amen.

All God's Blessings.

Calvin



Prayers

Listening, loving, all-knowing God, we place before you the challenge we face as we seek to live a life that is truly informed by our faith. Around us we see selfishness, corruption, and a lack of compassion towards, or concern for, others. Power and control appear to be the aim of many. Bless us, we pray and grant that faith is full within us, that boldness to work to change the world is within us, that love of neighbour, of enemy, of all people, is our goal.

Give peace and healing, we pray, to those who struggle to maintain their

lives, and those of their families, as we all step tentatively out into a less restricted environment.

Give wisdom and insight, we pray, to those who work in search of medicines and treatments, that fullness of life may be the possession of those who are ill.

Give wisdom of judgment and of decision, we pray, to those who govern locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. May we see a world of peace, of fair-trade and shared resources.

Give wisdom and strength, vision and purpose, expertise and renewed spirit to the people of your church that the future may be faced with confidence and with that hope which is to be found only in you. Bless the compassionate and the just and all those who walk alongside those in need.

Giving God, may we give to you all that we are and all that we might ever be. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

> An edited version of prayers from the Methodist Church worship sheet for 16th May

From the Worship Team

Hockley Methodist Church will be open for worship on Sunday 23rd May for a service with communion, led by Rev Calvin Samuel. After that, we will follow the Circuit plan, government regulations permitting, and hope that on 21st June, all restrictions will be lifted.

By now, you should have received an invitation to the Church Anniversary and a letter form Stan about the associated Gift Day. Please take note of the fact that you will need to let us know of your intention to attend on that day, as it is also All Age Worship and we will need to make sure we can manage the groups within the space available. It will be a treat and a step forward if we can all worship together on that day! The arrangements for weekly giving have not changed, so please continue to give either by bank transfer, direct debit/standing order or cheque, but no cash please. Stan can help if you need it (01702 201635). There is also no plan at present to change how you receive The Link and the Notices. A limited number of each are printed only for those not using the internet. Apart from anything else, this must help to reduce our carbon footprint and our frustrations when the photocopier has to do a lot of copies. It is like most of us – it likes to work slowly, with regular rest times!!

Muriel (on behalf of the Worship Team)

Current Covid-19 Guidelines

Yes - Church is reopening for Worship this Sunday and we hope to see you there.

We will still have to follow the "national guidance for the safe use of places of



worship" so we will need to wear masks and maintain social distancing and no singing yet. The one change is that we can "mingle" in groups of six or of two households which will affect the seating arrangements - the door steward will guide you on that when you arrive but once seated as an individual or group, please stay seated.

We have reviewed the risk assessment carried out before lockdown and the few adjustments identified have been made to our arrangements to ensure that you can worship safely. Please remind yourself of the guidance currently on the <u>Church website</u> which still applies except for the new relaxation for groups of six and households.

Please remember that "Government guidance remains that you should stay 2 metres apart from anyone who is not in your household or support bubble where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings) the further away you can keep from other people, and the less time you spend in close contact with them, the less likely you are to catch COVID-19 and pass it on to others. Close contact, including hugging, increases the risk of spreading COVID-19" (from gov.uk website).

Mike

Church Council

The Church Council met on Zoom on 5th and 13th May - this is a brief summary of the meetings:



 \bullet It was confirmed that Church would re-open from 17th May with our first service on 23rd May. This would be publicised

The risk assessment and guidance for worship had been reviewed and still considered appropriate subject to a few minor adjustments
We ran out of time to discuss next year's Circuit Assessment so we met on 13th May to discuss the alternative ways the Circuit were considering to calculate the assessment and decided that we would make a contribution of £20,000 for 2021-22

• We spent time again discussing Mission Planning and Calvin reminded us to join the District's Mission Planning Training

Mission Planning Training



We are starting work on a new Mission Plan, an exercise similar to our recent 5 Year Plans. There has been some initial consideration in Church Council meetings but there will be wider discussion soon. The District has organised Mission Plan Training sessions on Zoom, which are open to everybody. **PLEASE SIGN UP VIA THE LINK BELOW.** The sessions are taking place on 11th and 18th May and 15th and 22nd June – it's a continuous course, not 4 separate sessions.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mission-planning-training-for-beds-essexherts-methodists-tickets-141452639653

Painted Lockdown

At the start of last year my world changed dramatically and then, of course, everyone's world changed with a pandemic that drove us into lockdown. It didn't bother me at all. Time was standing still and that's exactly what I wanted. I grew Roses, beards, long hair and painted almost non-stop. As I reflect on the challenge of hopefully coming out of that lockdown I'd love to thank you all for sustaining me with your care, love and prayers throughout the past year and a half. Here's to a hug soon!"



Billy

Jean Saunders Says Thankyou

I would like to say thank you to everybody for the support that I've had throughout the lockdown. I've enjoyed the Friday Quizzoom and joined the Sunday service as often as I could but am looking forward to being in Church and seeing everybody face-to-face.

Jean

Ros' Lockdown (random) Ramblings

Thanks to lovely friends my lockdown life has not been a difficult one.

Our social bubble has enjoyed regular cycling and walking trips, it's also included much eating and drinking! We've enjoyed each other's cooking and sampled many a takeaway. Saturday night has become film night, thanks to Netflix new releases. I think we've seen all the best ones now!



Despite the lockdown a lot has happened during the fourteen months, particularly home and garden improvements at number 75. The story of my new raised bed was even made into <u>a film</u> by Mike!

My social life outside the bubble has been on ZOOM, who knew about Zoom a year and a half ago? Zoom fatigue has set in with me now - I'm really looking forward to seeing people face to face again.

I've been singing online every week for church and with the two choirs I belong to, recording myself or being recorded! It's been hard to sing alone and learn new music with the choir, I'm not sure I've been getting all of it right but hopefully we will shortly be able to rehearse together, oh but then everyone will know if I did or not!

It's been a time like no other we have known, let's hope and pray that with the progress of vaccine across the world we can all return to some sort of 'new normal'.

Ros

Prayer for the Day Volume 2

Looking through a pile of books on a table in Waterstones a couple of years ago I spotted a copy of 'Prayer for the Day', a second collection of readings from the BBC programme of the same name. I already had

an edition of earlier readings and find the two volumes together often make for a helpful start or end to the day. As well as a reading for each day of the week the book provides notes about the contributor, including in several instances Rev Calvin Samuel. I especially enjoyed his contribution referring to his childhood in Antigua, the small Caribbean island where he grew up.

Kay

January 23

Calvin Samuel

I grew up in Antigua, a tiny island in the Caribbean. Measuring 14 miles at its longest point and 11 miles at its widest, its coastline includes 365 white sandy beaches, one for each day of the year.

However, I live in Durham in the northeast of England, which also boasts a coastline of white sandy beaches, a number of which are stunning. Unless you know these two locations, you have no idea how much they have in common.

The similarities run deeper than coastlines. The population of Antigua is around 80,000. Coincidentally, the population of the city of Durham is of a similar order.

Perhaps precisely because of this small population, the cultural distance between people of the northeast of England and people of the eastern Caribbean is not as great as you might think. Though less

ethnically diverse than Manchester or London, where I have previously lived, the northeast feels far more like home to me. We even speak the same language of cricket, for heaven's sake! Perhaps best of all, I grew



up in Antigua's capital city, St John's, and the name of the Durham college in which I work each day is also St John's.

What is the point of this comparison? Durham and Antigua seem unlikely bedfellows. Yet once you get beyond obvious differences, it is possible to find common ground. One obvious difference is the temperature: Antigua is 30 degrees warmer than Durham! In this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, may

we too Find common ground.

Merciful God, forgive us when we fail to recognize in the other that there is more that Is us together than keeps us apart. Help us to see in the one who is different from us, who is equally a child of God. Amen.

BROADCAST WEDNESDAY 23 JANUARY 2013

A Link to the Past

The final instalment in Ian's epic cycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats.

Monday 30th May 2011 - Bridge to Tongue – 52 miles

This was again due to be an easy day, so I did not have to hurry, stopping to take some photos on the way. The road was the A836 but



was only single track and was quite hilly . As I was riding along I was caught up by one of my friends who was also riding Lands End to John O'Groats, as part of am organised tour with a vehicle carrying the luggage. It was nice to see Adrian and he very kindly tostopping for elevenses, so I joined them for tea and shortbread. Suitably refreshed we rode on to the next food stop through really nice scenery again slightly spoilt by rain. The group had arranged a lunch stop at Altnaharra so I joined them in the pub and we enjoyed a nice relaxed meal.

It seemed to take hardly any time to reach Tongue, where I was staying in B&B and Adrian and his group at the youth hostel. Very kindly, they invited me to join them for their evening meal. My digs were really nice with plenty of tea and coffee available in the bedroom and an excellent choice for breakfast. The walk to the hostel took about twenty minutes but it was nice to have some fellow cyclists to talk to. The meal was really good and only cost me £6-00. After a pleasant couple of hours I walked back and watched some TV before retiring to bed.

Tuesday 31st May 2011 – Tongue to John O'Groats – 66 miles

I had a good breakfast and then set out on the last leg of my journey, according to the group's briefing the first part of the route was hilly and then it got easier. The A836 follows the coast and surprisingly the sun was shining, the sea was blue and it was hot. It was very hilly and hard going all the way to Thurso. I stopped several times to take photos as the views were very good and you could see islands off the coast.

The group stopped in Thurso for their snack and I joined them in the café but they all left before I did. I had intended to ride straight through to John O'Groats, but it was so warm that I had to stop for a pint of orange juice and lemonade en route. I then caught up with a young lad just on the outskirts and he gave me directions to the finishing point. The group was still there and kindly gave me a celebratory glass of champagne.

One of the members of the group tried to lift my bike complete with luggage but could not do so ! (the panniers when loaded weighed 27 lbs.

I went into the café and had a snack and then went to my digs which were on the outskirts. I had been invited to the group's meal at the hotel and so after showering and phoning Viv. I walked the short distance to the hotel and enjoyed a very pleasant meal with them, leaving just after 9.00 p.m.

Wednesday 1st June 2011 - Ride to Wick - 20 miles

It was just a short pleasant ride to Wick to begin my journey home. I rode as slowly as possible but still arrived at Wick at about 11. 00 a.m. I went and had elevenses and then located the station and a good place for dinner. There was a good cheap pub, part of the Wetherspoons chain and I enjoyed a leisurely lunch and then a snooze at the Wick Station waiting for the 4.00 p.m. departure to Inverness. At Inverness, I changed to the overnight sleeper to Euston, surprisingly on both trains there was good provision for carriage of cycles as long as you had prebooked, as I had done. I bought a snack soon after departure at 8.46 p.m.

And retired to bed. Soon it was breakfast time, served in my room; it was surprisingly good and reasonably cheap. The train even arrived at Euston early and after a pleasant ride I was at Liverpool Street to catch the Southend train. I stopped off in Rayleigh to get some shopping and arrived home at about 9.00 a.m.

Total Mileage: Lands End to John O'Groats - 1125 miles

lan Mackenzie

A fantastic achievement by Ian.

Ray

Money Boxes

Those of us who were at the Wednesday Zoom Chat a few weeks ago will remember an amusing discussion about money boxes. I can't remember how it started but it resulted in the appearance of a number of unusual money boxes – here are a few. Thank you to those of you who went looking for your money boxes.



David Clarke



The Abbey Road Building Society money box was acquired when a family friend died. Abbey Road & St. John's Wood Mutual Benefit Building Society was founded in 1874 and became part of Abbey National in 1944. The 1/2d, 1d, 6d, shilling, florin, half-crown contained

in it would have been quite valuable in 1874 but I cannot open without a key and it is built like a tank. Any ideas?

The orange elephant comes from my time working for Dresdner Bank AG. We used to give them away to children to encourage saving and loyalty to the bank in later life. In Germany they are call "Drumbos" rather than Jumbos.

Ros Hayman



Mine's a cupcake given to me by my mum years ago. I save £2 coins in it and surprisingly it can hold over £200. My sister had one too and we all used to save up for to go on an annual trip to

a Yarn and Stitching Show in London.

It has a big sister (also from mum) but she's for biscuits!

Anne Sains



In amongst all the memories I have of being at Hockley Primary school in the 50's there lies my little money box. We would queue to buy our little stamps to make regular saving. I don't actually remember how or when we got our money but I am sure it went into our post office savings and I didn't spend it until I was at college, many years later. In my money box there are plenty of half crowns, the oldest from 1929 and a 1918 penny of Edward V.



My money box says - From saving comes having and Thrift must begin with little savings. Very worthy thoughts!!

Gill Cross

These belong to grandsons Noah and Ethan. Noah's is the purple one, a gift at a party that he painted himself and Ethan's was a gift from us that has had his name added







Shirley James

I bought this Beach Hut Moneybox on a Thursday Club visit to Leigh-on-Sea. It was a lovely, sunny day and the moneybox sits in my kitchen in front of a cheerful picture of Beach Huts!

Jean Saunders

This Sixpenny Kitty Moneybox was given to me by my Auntie when I was 16. It's quite a funny sort of thing but I've treasured it and used it to save my sixpences in.



Mine

Similar to Anne's, in the form of a savings book. My parents were customers of the old (Manchester and Liverpool) District Bank formed in 1829. Its name was shortened to District Bank in 1924 and it was acquired



by the National Provincial Bank in 1962 which eventually merged with Westminster Bank to form NatWest – In 2000, it became part of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group, which was re-named NatWest Group in 2020. Plus ça change!

When I broke got into it I found a half penny, two pennies a 10p piece - and a florin. We're having a take-away tonight!

A Lonesome Swine!



There's even a piggy bank sitting on the windowsill in the vestry. He's had a very quiet year or so – and he's completely empty!

Mike

Simon Drew's "Spot The .." Postcards



No room for a "Spot the ..." Postcard in this edition, you'll have to wait till next month

The answers to the Film Stars in the "Spot the .. " postcard in the last Link are

- 1 Warren Beattie 2. Kevin Spacey 3. Jack Nicholson
- 4. Nicole Kidman 5. Sophia Loren 6.

A Lockdown Joke

Due to the Lockdown restrictions my parents cannot visit us at the moment so we have put the house up for sale and they are coming to view this weekend!



Carolyn

Ray's Quizzoom 49 - 7th May 2021

ROUND ONE - CRYPTIC CLUES

Listen to the clues carefully as the answer will be there in front of you. You will be given the number of letters in the desired answer. Q. 1 This is a rare award for the night time attire. (4 letters) a) Gown b) Robe c) Toga d) Wrap Q. 2 Ban the twisted bra. (3 letters)

- Q. 3 Prepare for the ebb tide. (4 letters)
- Q. 4 A quiet wood. (3 letters)

Q. 5 It's wrong to live badly. (4 letters)

ROUND TWO - AMERICAN FOOTBALL

You will be given the name of it's town or city and you need to complete the second part of it's name. To help you a clue will be given.

Q. 6 BUFFALO - Plural of a boy's Christian name and also invoices for payment.

Q. 7 PITTSBURGH - Having much in common with Sheffield. a) Forks b) Knives c) Spoons d) Steelers

Q. 8 SAN FRANCISCO - These men are not quite fifty.

Q. 9 WASHINGTON - These natives of America had many different tribes and were collectively known as having flushed complexions.

Q. 10 MIAMI - A sea creature many people like swimming with.

ROUND THREE - BEFORE MY TIME

I have heard this phrase many times so I have decided to use this as a subject round. These questions are based on the early 1900's.

Q. 11 Queen Victoria died in January 1901 but who succeeded her by being crowned king in August 1902.

Q. 12 In July 1907 Lord Baden Powell initiates the Boy Scouts movement with a camping trip to which island.

Q. 13 The first F. A. Cup Final at the old Wembley Stadium was in 1923 and was a victory for Bolton Wanderers by two goals to nil. Who were their opposition in this F. A. Cup Final. A) Leeds United b) Manchester United c) Southend United d) West Ham United

Q. 14 In which year did the United States declare war on Germany in The First World War.

Q. 15 In 1927 Al Jolson appeared in the first film to have fully synchronised sound as he was heard to say "You aint heard nothing yet. Name the film.

ROUND FOUR - CAPITAL CITIES

Q. 16 Vienna is the capital of which European country.

- Q. 17 Addis Ababa is the capital of which African country.
- Q. 18 Hamilton is the capital of which Caribbean country.

Q. 19 Bratislava is the capital of which European country. a)

Czech Republic b) Serbia c) Slovakia d) Slovenia

Q. 20 Phnom Penh is the capital of which Asian country. ROUND FIVE - WORLD NEWS - (Q21 - Q25)

Q. 21 Who has recently written a book called "The Bench" about a ginger haired soldier and his baby son.

Q. 22 Which Premier League football club was broken into on Sunday by hundreds of disgruntled supporters.

Q. 23 France has threatened to cut off the supply of electricity to which island in a row over fishing waters.

Q. 24 On May 28th this year, The Royal Mail will issue a set of postage stamps to commemorate the career of which former Beetle.

Q. 25 Which member of "The Young Ones" was recently rescued by the fire brigade after he gets stuck cleaning windows at his London home.

a) Adrian Edmondson b) Rik Mayall c) Nigel Planer d) Cliff Richard

Answers to Ray's Quizzoom46 of 16th April 2021, Link No. 35

ROUND ONE - NEWSWEEK - (AI - A5) A. 1 A) RACHAEL BLACKMORE A. 2 BRADLEY WALSH A. 3 BARONESS SHIRLEY WILLIAMS A.4 A RABBIT A.5 A DRAW

ROUND TWO - ADDED NUMBERS - (A 6 - A 10) A. 6 60 (A BULLS EYE IS 50 PLUS 10 COMMANDMENTS) A. 7 70 (HEINZ VARIETIES 1557 PLUS BAKERS DOZEN IS 13) A. 8 80 (77 SUNSET STRIP PLUS 3 TIMES A LADY) A.9 90 MAGNIFICENT 7 X2 = 14 PLUS 76 TROMBONES) A. 10 100 a 99 ICE CREAM PLUS 1 POINT FOR A RED BALL)

ROUND THREE - IN THE ARMY - (All - A 15) A. 11 1917 A. 12 1960 A. 13 B) BERNARD BRESSLAW AS PRIVATE POPPLEWELL A. 14 DWIGHT D EISENHOWER A. 15 IN THE ARMY NOW ROUND FOUR - PRINCE PHILIP - (A 16 - A 20) A. 16 A) CORFU A. 17 1921 A. 18 1947 A.19 THE NAVY A.20 THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT HIS HERO FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY

ROUND FIVE - CRIMINAL RECORDS - (A 21 - A 25) A. 21 (BALLAD OF) BONNIE AND CLYDE A. 22 ERIC CLAPTON A. 23 STAND AND DELIVER A.24 PRODIGY A. 25 B) KUNG FU FIGHTING



Newsletter No. 36

It'll be good to be back in Church on Sunday! This edition of the magazine is early (we aim for the end of the month) because we felt it would be appropriate to have an edition on the weekend we re-opened.

Thank you, once again, to everybody who's contributed and a reminder that the Sunday Notices and the 21 Link Magazine are both on a monthly cycle, so there's one or the other every 2 weeks with The Link usually issued at the end of the month. Please send any items for the 21 Link to <u>hmethslink@gmail.com</u> by the Wednesday before publication. Anything you think should be included in the Notices needs to be sent to Nicola at <u>hmmc1883@gmail.com</u> by the Wednesday morning prior to their issue.

Muriel & Mike 21st May 2021

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