

JULY and AUGUST 2022

TOGETHER



METHODIST CHURCHES
PORTISHEAD **REDCLIFFE BAY**
High Street *Queens Road*

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From Rev Nick Moxon

Last week I came across the classic Two Ronnies sketch 'Four Candles' which I never tire of watching. You'll remember that it's about a workman (played by Ronnie Barker) coming into a hardware shop and asking the shop worker (Ronnie Corbett) for certain things. He starts off with asking for 'Fork handles' but is given 'four candles' instead. The sketch is packed full of misheard words - hose & (the letter) O; (the letter) P & a tin of peas. Describing it doesn't do it justice as it's the acting of the two comedians that add to the fun of it.

Have you ever had a time when either you misheard something or were misunderstood yourself? It's frustrating isn't it! Sometimes it can take a while to get the correct message over and received.

On the same afternoon as re-discovering the Two Ronnies I came across a some words that the Apostle Paul wrote to Christians in Colossae (and to us today)...

'... pray for us ... that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.'

Paul knew that the message he was sharing with the world could easily be misunderstood or misinterpreted. He knew that

his words and his actions would speak volumes to those around him. He asked his fellow believers to pray that his message would be clear and understandable.

As followers of Jesus we are called to share His love with the world through our words and actions. And to do it in a way that is clear and understandable even if it is hard for some to comprehend.

My prayer for you is that, you too, would be able to proclaim the love of Christ clearly and that you will be guided by the One who calls you.

Nick

Sunday Services in Church are at 10.00 am at Portishead and 10.30 am at Redcliffe Bay. These and other events are listed in the Calendar.

Some Covid 19 precautions are being maintained.

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2022

3rd Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Rev Nick Moxon

10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Mrs Jess McManus

4th Monday 9.30 – 11.30 am Little Stars (Redcliffe Bay)

6th Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00 am Prayer Meeting (Portishead)
7.30 pm Bible Study – on-line.

- 10th Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Rev Nick Moxon
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Peter Mortlock
- 11th Monday 9.30 – 11.30 am Little Stars (Redcliffe Bay)
- 12th Tuesday 10.00 am Holy Communion (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Nick Moxon
10.30 -noon Coffee and Chat (Redcliffe Bay)
- 13th Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00 am Prayer Meeting (Portishead)
- 14th Thursday 11.30 am Thanksgiving Service for Marjorie Legge
(Redcliffe Bay) Rev Nick Moxon
- 16th Saturday 9.30 am Working Party (Redcliffe Bay)
- 17th Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Rev Preben Adersen
10.30 am Holy Communion and ACM (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Nick Moxon
- 18th Monday 9.30 – 11.30 am Little Stars (Redcliffe Bay)
- 20th Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00 am Prayer Meeting (Portishead)
7.30 pm Bible Study – on-line.
- 24th Sunday 10.00 am All Age Worship and Holy Communion
(Portishead) Rev Nick Moxon
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Ian Bowley
- 27th Wednesday 10.00 – 11.00 am Prayer Meeting (Portishead)
- 31st Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Mr Alan Emery
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Mr David Eggleston

August 2022

- 7th Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
LA
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Mrs Heather Bentley

14th Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Rev Ian Bowley
10.30 am Holy Communion (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Nick Moxon

20th Saturday 9.30 am Working Party (Redcliffe Bay)

21st Sunday 10.00 am Holy Communion and AAW (Portishead)
Rev Nick Moxon
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Mrs Jean Balcome

28th Sunday 10.00 am Morning Service (Portishead)
Rev Nick Moxon
10.30 am Morning Service (Redcliffe Bay)
Rev Preben Andersen

GENERAL NEWS

'FAITH AT THE MUSICALS'

Christchurch, Chapel Hill Clevedon. Friday 15th July 7.30pm – 9.30pm (doors open 7pm)

Come and see exceptional musicians from London's West End perform your favourite musical hits at Christchurch! Tearfund and 'West End Has Faith' are joining together to give us a night to remember. 'West End Has Faith' is a group of professional singers and musicians who have regularly lit up London's biggest musicals with their stunning vocals, now expressing their love for Jesus.

In between songs, the group will share about their faith and the life-saving work that Tearfund is doing around the world, helping people lift themselves out of poverty. Sit back and enjoy the inspirational performances from London's West End stars while raising money for people in greatest need.

Invite your family, friends, neighbours, colleagues for a fantastic evening of live entertainment – all for only £6 per person with discounted family tickets available at £18 for four people.

Tickets can be purchased online via [Eventbrite](#) but don't wait too long as numbers are limited!



Many thanks to all who made this year's Christian Aid Week a great success. Together, in Portishead we raised £3569.27.

MARTHA'S KITCHEN NEWS

During the May half-term families and volunteers decorated the Wesley Hall, red white and blue as together they celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The children iced biscuits, made posters and created Union Jacks from play-dough. The tables were decorated with Red, White and Blue ribbons and bunting was draped around the hall. We pinned the Crown on the Queen and created a quiet space for children and families to reflect on all the good things that are happening in the world to-day.

Before the families arrived, volunteers spent time together in prayer asking that they might be the hands and feet of Jesus, this simply means communicating the love of Christ to the people he created.

"This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples when you love each other" John 13:35

As Martha's Kitchen volunteers prepare to serve families over the long summer holidays, we ask that you continue to hold us in prayer, so that we can continue to show the love of Christ to the families of Portishead.

Lindsay Smith

CLOTHES BANK

A Clothes Bank for emergency use with Children's and Ladies clothes plus toys and toiletries has been set up at Unit 7 Ryan's Safe Storage at the bottom of Old Mill Road Portishead. Open Monday – Friday 8.00 am – 6.00pm. Saturday 8.00 am to 2.00 pm.

SUCCESS IN THE GAMBIA

Sightsavers, the charity who concentrate on eye problems in the third world report that the WHO has confirmed that The Gambia has become the second sub-Saharan country to eliminate trachoma as a public health problem, following Ghana's success in 2018. Sightsavers still need to work in 19 countries to eliminate trachoma. In 2020 10.8 million people needed treatment, mostly with antibiotics costing £45 to treat 100. There were 10,063 cases of painful advanced trachoma needing an operation for which a surgical kit costs £92.31. The Government's decision to reduce UK Aid will mean that funding for treatment in 13 countries will end on 31st August. You can make a donation on-line at www.sightsavers.org or by calling 0800 466 111 or put it in an envelope addressed to Freepost SIGHTSAVERS

METHODIST CONFERENCE

The Methodist Conference returned for the first wholly in-person event since 2019. This year it took place in Telford between 24th and 30th June

The Representative Session opened with the induction of the President, the Rev Graham Thompson and the Vice President, Anthony Boateng who will serve in these roles for the next year.

Topics discussed this year include Oversight and Trusteeship, an update on the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity strategy and exploring a Theology of Online life. Action for Hope, the plan to implement an aspirational target to become a net zero Church by 2030, was shared with the Conference as was the outline of eight aims to focus on in the coming years. Conference representatives also heard a presentation by the newly-installed Chaplain-General and Deputy Chaplain-General of the British Army who are both Methodist ministers.

A service of repentance and commitment was shared during worship on the Wednesday. It had been developed in response to last year's

Conference adopting the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity strategy and a Notice of Motion which offered an unreserved apology to those who have suffered abuse and victimisation. The apology is not offered to any single group or characteristic, but is recognition that the Church has caused harm to many groups and people. It will be offered to Methodist districts and circuits to be used at Synods during the latter part of 2022.

Representatives were also be able to take part in a wide range of fringe events. The Beckly Lecture 'Britain Global Power or Good Neighbour' was delivered by the Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng. The Conference celebrated the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Methodist Insurance.

ANN'S MAD BIKE RIDE

Christians Against Poverty 18th June 2022 -Cycling 205 miles from Dawn to Dusk from Sheerness to Burnham on Sea in one day.

"Why are you doing it?" was the most common question I was asked when people heard about my bike ride. For a number of reasons was my response. Firstly, to raise awareness of our debt centre and make sure people know we exist, and that we help people outside of the Church as well as those within.

"Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house." Matt 5:15.

Secondly, to help people understand how difficult it is to get out of debt. It is really hard to ride a bike from sunrise to well past sunset, but it is much harder to get out of debt. Even simple cases require the client to do a lot of work in getting paperwork together, answering tons of questions and having to explain things they may prefer not to.

Thirdly, to raise money and finally, I wanted to raise awareness of CAP within my Church and beyond my parish (St Joseph's RC, Portishead).

Riding the bike, doing the training, getting equipped for an endurance event was tough but I found the fund raising harder. I

don't like self publicity and having to ask people for money challenging.

The whole venture was stressful as I was walking into the unknown and I had a real sense of Joshua taking the first steps into the Promised Land. The priests carrying the ark had to get their feet wet before the waters parted. Drying out soaked shoes has been a recurring theme of my training in the British weather! It takes faith and perseverance to carry on.

This ride wasn't about me. This was about our clients with the efforts they are making to turn their lives around with no one watching and often no one supporting them. It is about the faithfulness of John and Lizzie Kirkby who founded CAP with £10 and built it relying on God and God alone. It is about the team of volunteers around the country supporting clients without fanfares or accolades. It is about my family and my husband and the sacrifices he has made supporting me.

This is the Church in action, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and freeing the captives. God's providence meant that we had ITV

filming one of our clients on June 20th, two days later. The reporter and journalist were visibly moved by her testimony and the testimony of others they met off camera. This is the Church preaching the gospel through our lives and through transforming those we meet.

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10 14



Finally, I didn't succeed with the ride, well at least not at first. Hypothermia caused by riding for five hours in the rain and cold stopped me 13 miles from the end, half way down Cheddar Gorge long past sunset. But I went back 3 days later and finished it in the sunshine.

Though he falls, he will not be overwhelmed, for the LORD is holding his hand. Psalm 37:24.

Ann Tarr, Gordano Valley Debt Centre Manager,
Christians Against Poverty.

Sponsorship has raised over £1500 so far. You can still contribute at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gv-cap> or by phoning Ann on 07568 354 880

PETROL AND FOOD SHORTAGE

We think of petrol as being refined from crude oil drilled out of the depths of the earth, but the petrol bought at the pumps is only 90% of that. The other 10% is ethanol added to reduce the carbon footprint, as part of the move to a greener environment and net zero. Ethanol is mostly produced from wheat and maize. With the shortage of supplies of grain, due to the war in Ukraine, much of the Third World is heading for a food crisis. A proposal to temporarily reduce the ethanol in petrol is being considered by the Government to free grain for food production and is on the G7 meeting agenda. Land used globally for biofuel production could feed 3.5 million people.

JESUS-UNDER-THE-DIRT

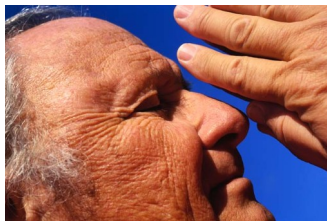
There is a big man with no English
on the High Street
who begins to cry if you give him money.
He calls you "Mama" and wants to hug you,
and he is a horror to look at:
running nose and mucus on his sleeves
and an open sore on his lip and

the dirtiest wrists,
under his sweater where no shirt is.
Odd shoes.
And grey-grease-naked ankles like you've
never seen, under no socks.

I hate it when he hugs me;
and he hangs on a long time.
But if he is Jesus, under the dirt,
if he is raving, hungry Jesus, under the dirt,
then I must hug him.
Mustn't I?
I haven't got far with this contamination thing.
I have moved beyond
dogs and crumbs-under-the-table,
but not far.
Foxes have holes, birds have nests.
Sobbing, aching Jesus-Under-The-Dirt
has no place to lay his head.

© Lucy Berry 2019 *Rev Lucy Berry was poet in residence at
The Joint Public Issues Team 2018 - 2020*

PRAYERS



Boundless God,
help us to see the world differently—
not with our own limited vision
but with the gaze of love and justice.
Give us the foolishness to believe that we can change
what the world says is impossible;
and when we lose sight of the power of love to change the world
increase our faith. Amen.

Lord God,
Instill in us a sense of your justice.
May we never take for granted the food that we have,
nor tell ourselves that hunger is not our problem.

Help us to use the voices that we have
to speak up against the many injustices
that make hunger an ever-present problem.
Amen

From Christian Aid

Unclutter our lives, Lord, we have too much, consume too much,
expect too much.

Grant us perspective; to see this world through others' eyes
than just our own.

Grant us compassion; where there is need to play our part
not turn aside.

Grant us gratitude for what we have, our daily bread
the gift of life.

Unclutter our lives, Lord, give us space, simplicity
thankful hearts.

written by John Birch,

For those completing their education this month:

May you have wisdom in heart and mind;
success in every challenge you find;
courage to seek life's purpose for you;
belief in yourself to make it come true;
strength to do your best and endure;
and the guiding light of faith to ensure
that wherever you go, whatever you do,
God's love will always see you through.

written by Lisa O. Englehardt.



PORTISHEAD

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[**The Beacon Hub | Home**](#)

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/portisheadmethodistHighSt

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

The funeral of Ian Paget's wife, Divette, took place on 13th June and was streamed on-line. We think and pray for Ian and the relatives.

VINTAGE AFTERNOON TEA

High Street Methodist Church recently held a Vintage Afternoon Tea which included some tasty sandwiches, fruit kebabs,



A LIGHT ON THE HIGH STREET

macarons, beautifully decorated cakes and scones with jam and cream.



This was all displayed on tiered cake stands and nicely presented on vintage crockery including teapots, tablecloths and

floral arrangements to give it that authentic look.

Everyone had to earn their tea by participating in a Jubilee Quiz and ending with a sing-along which was expertly played by Philip Baldwin from Redcliffe Bay Methodist.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and complimented the catering team on the delicious array of food.

All proceeds will be going towards the Beacon Hub.

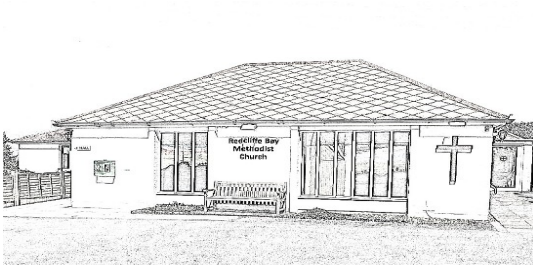


BOOK CLUB

Our next book club meeting will be on Saturday the 2nd of July 10.30 am till noon, at the Beacon Hub when we will be reading and discussing:

The Room in the attic by Louise Douglas.

If you enjoy reading you would be welcome to join us
Anne



REDCLIFFE BAY

Website: www.redcliffebaymethodistchurch.org.uk

NEWS OF THE FAMILY

Marjorie Legge died peacefully on 14th June with Christine, Brian and Nick there. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday 14th July at 11.30 am. We think of her many years of cheerful service to the Church and pray for Christine, Brian and the family.

BAYCON BUTTIES

After celebrating the Jubilee our popular meeting for men, with bacon butties and coffee, is taking a break and will resume on the first Thursday in September.

WEDNESDAY FOCUS

The first meeting of the Autumn Session will be on 14th September. Book the date now.

WORKING PARTY

Weeds and plant growth do not stop, so we will be having Working Parties on Saturday 16th July and 20th August, Come for however long you can manage between 9.30 and noon.

PRAYER CHAIN To take part, or if there is a prayer need, please contact Sue Mason Tel. 849553.



POSTSCRIPT

THEOLOGY AS EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN

The first book of the Bible is Guinnessis, in which Adam & Eve were created from an apple tree.

Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

Cot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.

Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

Unleavened bread is bread made without ingredients.

Moses went to the top of Mt. Cyanide to get the 10 commandments.

The 7th commandment is 'Thou shalt not admit adultery.'

David fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.

Solomon has 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

The people who followed Jesus were called the 13 decibels.

The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

One of the opossums was St. Matthew.

Paul preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

Author Unknown

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by **SUNDAY 21st August**