

# 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

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For general questions: <u>info@burnhammethodistchurch.com</u>

# Services in the coming weeks:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 6:30pm Rev Vicci Davidson
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 10:30am we welcome Sue Clifford to our pulpit.
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June sees the launch of Van with a Plan project at an event in Alexandra Gardens, Windsor between 3pm – 4pm. All welcome.

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### **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: Jo and Andrew, Joanne Prior; Ed; George, Liz and family; Marilyn and Bill; Julia; Pat; Freddy, Chris Tindall



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.

#### 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. A member of Citizen's Advice Bureau attends the Meeting Place on the second Wednesday of each month between 9:30 and 12:30. No appointment is necessary but messaging or calling Terry ( 07450004863 or 01753648759) a few days in advance is helpful.

**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 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

#### And for the Youth of the Circuit

Geese – because questions need answers!! Every second Friday from 6pm at Windsor Church age 12 – 18.

Call Sophie on 079048605 for more details and get involved, "as we ignite a passion for peace and justice. Join in tough conversations, paving the way for a brighter more inclusive future.....sparking change one conversation at a time.

## **Dates for your diary**

**Saturday 21**<sup>st</sup> **June the Stewards are planning a Table Top Sale...** The charge will be £10 per table and sellers will be asked to contribute a gift to the Raffle. More details to follow when approved by Church Council

### Rev'd Vicci's Thought for the Week

### Friends,

Ascensiontide is upon us once again and with it "Thy Kingdom Come". Started ten years ago by the Anglican Church, it has spread from England out to over 170 countries and multiple denominations, becoming a truly global initiative. The idea is to think of five people that you would love to see come to church and pray for them every day between Ascension (Thursday the 29th of May) and Pentecost (8th of June). There are prayer and Bible Study resources that you can pick up in church, and this year we are looking at The Lord's Prayer, from which of course, the title "Thy Kingdom Come" is taken. Written by Stephen Cottrell the Archbishop of York, they will be available on the entrance tables of each church from Thursday. They are a free resource, and there are enough for you to pick up extra for any friends who might be interested.

It has been said that "Prayer first changes us; then the world." I am nervous of that definition, as it can imply that it is only humans who have any agency in the world, and ignores the truth that God still works miracles. However, it is also true that a lively and regular prayer life makes a difference to our own attitudes and behaviours and opens us up to God's calling. Perhaps also, it makes us more aware of the times when God answers our prayers. It is too easy to dismiss God's actions in our lives as coincidence or happenstance, especially when the answer comes through the actions of others. I know a Christian comic who speaks of praying that he would see a petrol station because his car had become dangerously low on petrol. He had reached a point of bargaining with God: "O God, if you will just let me find a petrol station before my car grinds to a halt, I will come to church every week." He goes on to see the petrol station and says: "Oh, it's okay thank you God. I've just found one — I don't need you after all!" It's a joke, but it is also a reminder that we can and do behave like that sometimes ourselves. We pray and pray, and when the prayer is answered, we attribute it to almost anything but God.

Thy Kingdom Come therefore encourages us both to join with others and to re-invigorate our own prayer lives. May you find it a blessing this year.

God bless, Vicci

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### **Prayers and Prayer Pointers**

**Monday 2nd June -** On this day over 900 years ago (in 1098), the first Siege of Antioch finished, marking a victory for the invading Crusaders on their way to Jerusalem.

- This time of violence and invasion in the name of religion (but actually in the service of empire) is a time of shame for the church and all who are associated with organised religion.
- Although it was a long time ago, the temptation for our religious institutions to collude with 'empires' (the forces of power in our world political, business, wealth) remains. Today, let us pray for our leaders, that they will avoid the call of earthly power and seek to glorify God in all things.

#### **Tuesday 3rd June**

- Opening the curtains, blinds or shutters:
- Take time to pray for the world and in particular those who live and work in your community. The shopkeepers, restaurants and bars. For service providers, hairdressers, beauticians and the Post Office. For health providers like the Doctors and Chemist.

#### Wednesday 4th June

- Today is marked internationally as the memorial of the Tiananmen Square protests in China, which ended in violence on 4th June 1989. However, public gatherings to mark the occasion are still banned in China and Hong Kong. - Today, we pray for all who live in fear of their own leaders and rulers, whether in local, national or international settings. - Come Lord Jesus, Amen.

## Thursday 5th June

- Looking in the mirror:

Ask God to reveal to you what part you should play in their plan. What are your special gifts and graces? What in particular might you do today that would show God's love to others?

#### Friday 6th June

- Using the kettle, oven or microwave: Pray for those who are struggling to make ends meet and for whom food and drink are not easy to come by. For those people where starvation is the norm. Consider what you might do to be part of Gods plan to ensure all can flourish.

## Saturday 7th June

- God of all grace,

Today I pray for all suffering with physical pain – especially where that has not been treated or treatable. Come, healing, comforting God, into the suffering that comes when we cannot trust our own bodies. Amen.

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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