



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: info@burnhammethodistchurch.com

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Services in the coming weeks:
Sunday 23rd March we welcome Red Margaret Dudley
Sunday 30th March Local Arrangement for Mothering Sunday

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.

Friday 10:00am Bible Study led by Rev'd Vicci next meeting will be on Friday 28th March.

Fund raising for Church repairs and upgrades to our building. Our Church building and halls have been serving the Community in Lent Rise and beyond for over 125 year. Over the years the halls have been used for all sorts of community events from being the Child Health Centre where Mum's bought babies to be weighed, through Boy's Brigade, Ballet Lessons Community lunches and in the present day there are activities on every day: Chair based exercises, Pilates, The Meeting Place, Cameo, and Monday Club – plus various activities and meetings for the Church. All of this activity is beginning to take a toll on the buildings. The Stewards have been reviewing the jobs that need to be done and realising that we will need to raise a lot of money to cover the costs.

We are proposing a number of fund raising events and the dates planned so far are below. Most families in the area will have (had) some connection with the Church over the years and we will be needing everyone to encourage friends and neighbours to support us.

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”.....(wish this had been around when I was that age 😊)

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Dates for your diary

Friday 25th April Quiz night at Burnham Church from 6:00pm .The cost will be £10.00 per head which will include a “jacket potato and choice of filling” supper. The Methodist Church has a “no alcohol policy” so please bring your own NON-ALCOHOLIC drinks! Teams will be a maximum of 6 people – come in smaller numbers and join in with others on the night. Contact Joy Brown on 01628 664662 for more details or to book. We will be holding a raffle. If you could donate a prize, or have contact with someone who can, that would be greatly appreciated.

Saturday 21st 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

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Rev'd Vicci's Thought for the Week

Friends,

I wonder if you have had those conversations with non-faith friends that say something along the lines of “If God is real, why doesn't he just do something really dramatic to prove it?” Disregard for a moment one obvious answer (he did, two thousand years ago) and think for a moment about how God generally acts. Often the stories of God and of God's people are stories of ordinary people trying to live their lives in faith: messing up, making mistakes, but upheld by a God who loves them and is faithful to them. That love is worked out, not through miraculous intervention, but through ongoing faithfulness and events that we sometimes only recognise God's hand in retrospectively. How many times have we said, “It wasn't fun, but what came out of it was really amazing.” Sometimes we can see that in other's lives before they can. Often that it because the thing that happened was too painful, but God doesn't cause the painful thing to happen, he simply is able to work from within whatever it is to create something good in the end. When he says, in Jeremiah 29:11 “I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future,” this is not about God planning bad things that he can turn into good ones, but about trusting that whatever happens, God can create good from it.

It is amazing to me that there are people who can believe that they tripped on a paving stone and broke their arm because they smashed a mirror yesterday, but don't see the hand of God when a whole series of events then unfolds because of who they meet at the hospital. Put simply, if we believe that there is a God who loves us, we see his hand in every part of our lives, if we don't then everything must be down to luck.

We will probably never convince our non-believing friends through the strength of our own faith – we can only hold to it ourselves, speak of it when the opportunity arises, and pray that God will do the rest. Nevertheless, God is at work in our lives, and as we draw closer to Easter once more, my prayer is that we will learn not to just to recognise his work of new life in us, but to look for it every day.

God bless, Vicci

Prayers and Prayer Pointers

Monday 24th March - Open your Bible at the Psalms and read one as a prayer to God. What resonates with you? Consider in what ways these old words feel new to you and offer them to God.

Tuesday 25th March - Go outdoors and find something natural: a stone, leaf, flower, or something else. Consider the ways God has made this thing and then reflect on how you too are wonderfully made by God. What does this mean to you?

Wednesday 26th March - Look up a hymn or worship song on YouTube or in a hymn book and sit and listen or read the words aloud: don't do anything else while you listen. Let your mind, body and soul tune into God through the music in prayer.

Thursday 27th March - Light a candle. Jesus is the light of the world. Pray about the places you experience darkness in your life, that Jesus light might shine there.

Friday 28th March - Go litter picking. Each bit of litter you pick up is working to bring God's Kingdom in that place. As you pick up the litter, pray about what it might mean for God's will for this place to be done.

Saturday 29th March - Think about how God is at work in the lives of everyone. You can see God shining out from all people. Remember this with the next person you speak to, and give thanks for the glimpses of God you see in them.

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