



# *Burgess Hill Methodists*

Issue 58 October 2025

*The calling of the methodist church is to respond to the gospel of gods love in christ and to live out its decipleship in worship and mission.*

*Loving Father*

*What meaningful words can I say to you*

*When you have heard them all so many times before?*

*What can I offer you*

*When every gift I have is yours already?*

*So I bow my head in reverence and silence,*

*and strive to meet with you,*

*Shutting out the noise and clamour of everyday life.*

*And in the stillness I wait to hear your word.*

*So that by your grace I may journey on my way,  
as your loyal, humble servant.*

*Amen*

A prayer from the Methodist prayer book. Written by Nancy David

A prayer for our church in 2025

Dear God of mission

Who alone brings growth to your church

send your Holy Spirit to give

Vision to our planning

And power to our witness.

Help our church grow in numbers

In spiritual Commitment to you,

And service to our local community,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen

© Leading your church into growth.

# Reflection

October 2025

Each year the incoming President and Vice-President of our Methodist Conference set a theme for the year to come. This year, Rev. Richard Andrew and Mr Matthew Forsyth have introduced the theme 'Our Story, Our Song'. They describe it as 'an encouragement to a journey of discernment as we seek afresh the story God has called us to live and the song God has called us to sing.' Both our congregations of Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill mark our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversaries in the coming Methodist year. These are opportunities to review our story and the song we have sung, remember the characters who have been part of it, and the voices who have sung our song of faith.

As with any story there are always developments and twists as people come and go, and situations change. We are obviously preparing for such a change this year as Helen and I will be moving on and, we pray, a new minister will be appointed to minister with you into the next chapter of the story, the next verse of the song.

It might be useful for you to know the timeline for this process. On 17<sup>th</sup> October ministers will be sent the books of Circuits looking for a new minister, and Circuits will be sent the books of ministers on the move. Both ministers and Circuits get the chance to create a list of potential matches. From Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November the Stationing Matching Group meets to try and match all ministers on the move with a potential appointment. In the week or so following visits will happen and decisions will be made.

I obviously won't be able to say anything until everything is decided, and equally the Circuit won't be able to confirm a match until all is confirmed, so do be patient, and we will share all the news we are able to at the appropriate time.

Whilst this may feel an unsettling time, it is also a time of excitement and adventure as we all wait to see where next God leads us in the story of our journey following the path of Christ. Wherever it leads, may we continue to sing the song of God's love and grace with boldness and joy.

*Will*

# Updates from home

## OUR AUTUMN BREAK

In September Lorna and I spent 5 days in my favourite place, the New Forest accompanied by a friend of mine, visiting from her home in the USA.

We stayed in Burley a village between Fordingbridge and Ringwood, an area new to us. This was our 5th visit to the forest in as many years.

While we were away we visited the beautiful Exbury Gardens, and enjoyed a ride on the miniature steam train.

Walked in the forest seeing pony's and pigs.

Did shopping in the lovely town of Lyndhurst and of course went bird watching at lakes run by Hampshire Wildlife Trust.

On our final day we went into Winchester and had a guided tour of the Cathedral, which was extremely interesting.

I particularly enjoyed seeing the hand written 12th century Bible. Written on parchment made from calf skin, in Latin using a goose feather quill (several I expect!)

Probably commissioned by the Bishop of Winchester Henry of Blois. It is thought to be the work of one of the scribes who took 4 years to write / copy it.

Below are some photos of our trip.

Caroline K.





# Girls Brigade



## 4<sup>th</sup> Burgess Hill Girls' Brigade – September 2025

We started back to GB on Wednesday 10 September with 11 Explorers, 2 Juniors, 4 Seniors and 2 Brigaders (although one is at Uni).

We have started new badgework as follows :-

Explorers **Helpful People:** We are looking at *Who might help us in an emergency?* RNLI, Police, Ambulance workers, Fire Brigade and Coastguard; *Who might help us to be healthy?* Doctors, Nurses, Dentist, Optician; *Who might help us in School?* Teachers, School Secretary, Diner Ladies, Older Children; *How do builders and decorators help us?* Carpenters, Architects, Decorators, Builders, Plumbers, Electricians and *How can we help others?* Doing jobs around the house, helping our Teacher and Classmates, being kind and gentle with everyone we know and being considerate to others.

Juniors: **Caring:** with Valerie Randell: Making a poster of words relating to Caring eg. Helping, being Kind, Listening, Talking. Discussing how they can Care. Caring for Pets, Caring for Plants, Reading the story of Moses in the Bulrushes and how Pharaoh's Daughter cared for the baby. Doing a short play about Moses in the Bulrushes. Thanking God for people who Care and discussing how God cares for us and His protection is always there.

One of our Brigaders is taking the Senior badge **World Need** looking at other parts of the world which are less wealthy than where we live and whose people struggle from lack of health care, opportunities that we take for granted and, in some parts of the world, dire situations seeking every day needs.

We are supporting the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal again this year. This charity gives aid to families and the elderly in Ukraine, Moldova, Romania and Bulgaria. A flyer will soon be available regarding items that would be suitable for the shoeboxes. Items need to be given to me by 22 October at the latest, thank you.

At the end of each session, we end up with a game or two and have recently reintroduced *Cooking Pot* to the Explorers, a good fun game to get rid of some surplus energy!

My thanks to Ellie, Valerie, Amorette and Molly for leading the girls in the various activities and to the parents who bring the girls so regularly each week.

Margaret Taylor ~ Captain ~ 4th Burgess Hill Girls' Brigade - September 2025

**4th Burgess Hill Girls' Brigade**

We will be supporting

**LINK to HOPE Family & Elderly SHOEBOX APPEAL**

again this year which is based in Ferring, West Sussex

**Please help if you can**

Naturally, if you would like to make up a whole box, then that would be fantastic but I know that not everyone can afford to put together a whole Shoebox full of 'goodies' so, as an alternative, you can bring items to Church and give them to me and I will make up the boxes on your behalf. If you don't have a shoebox, I will have a few spares. Any gifts will be so very much appreciated. Please return your shoebox or give items to me by

**22 October** at the **latest**, thank you so much. Leaflets available giving suggestions of what can go into the shoeboxes

# Quiz!

This month we thought we would do something different, so please find below a wordsearch the answers to last months quiz are later in the newsletter

## Books of the Bible

F	W	P	I	F	P	U	K	N	W	J	V	E	E	N	L	P	W
L	Z	V	P	H	I	L	E	M	O	N	E	C	X	J	N	S	S
U	C	O	R	I	N	T	H	I	A	N	S	C	O	E	E	H	M
K	M	I	C	A	H	S	Q	O	I	Q	J	L	D	R	H	E	A
E	O	O	F	M	A	T	T	H	E	W	G	E	U	E	E	B	R
P	R	O	V	E	R	B	S	Z	L	U	E	S	S	M	M	R	K
C	R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N	N	I	C	I	I	E	E
S	L	R	O	M	A	N	S	C	Z	I	E	A	A	A	A	W	J
J	H	O	H	O	B	A	D	I	A	H	S	S	C	H	H	S	O
E	N	U	M	B	E	R	S	J	F	X	I	T	T	B	I	M	H
S	B	C	O	L	O	S	S	I	A	N	S	E	S	R	G	F	N
L	E	V	I	T	I	C	U	S	U	C	M	S	T	U	Y	W	B

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden →, ↓, and ↘.

ACTS  
COLOSSIANS  
CORINTHIANS  
ECCLESIASTES  
EXODUS  
GENESIS  
HEBREWS  
JEREMIAH

JOHN  
LEVITICUS  
LUKE  
MARK  
MATTHEW  
MICAH  
NEHEMIAH  
NUMBERS

OBADIAH  
PHILEMON  
PROVERBS  
REVELATION  
ROMANS

# Church News

We now have an informal Holy Communion service on the first Tuesday of each month. Led by Rev. Will Fletcher, at 12:15 in the back hall. Please come if you can.

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Unfortunately, the war in Ukraine continues and is getting worse. The people over there are running out of food. If you can help us fill the box in the welcome area with non-perishable items, Heather our contact would be very grateful, they are trying to do 2 drop offs a month at the moment.

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Please remember to sign up for making refreshments after our Sunday service.

This is generally well attended and gives us a chance to chat. Your help would be greatly appreciated. The form is on the board in the welcome area.

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## **Harvest**

Like last year, we have 2 services to celebrate Harvest.

Our harvest Festival will be at 4:30pm on Sunday 12th October, and taken by Rev Will. There will be a collection for All we Can, our Methodist charity plus a collection of non perishable food items for the Burgess Hill food bank. After the service tea, coffee and cakes will be available in the back hall.

The following Sunday morning at 10:30am 19th October, once again taken by Rev Will, we will celebrate harvest by having a bring and share lunch after the service. There is a list of suggested food in the welcome area.

Please remember you can bring anything you like.

I do hope you will join us.

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# Website and Email address

## The church now has a website!

[www.burgesshillmethodists.co.uk](http://www.burgesshillmethodists.co.uk)

We thought it was about time that we had a website – especially as if you googled ‘churches Burgess Hill’ we were not listed at all! So the next time you lose your service dates in the newsletter, or you want to show someone a picture of the church, you can look it all up on the website.

We have also taken steps to improve our email security – we do sincerely apologise for the random emails you received when our email address was hacked. They are now much more secure, but you will notice a slight difference in the email address which is now: **bhmethodists@gmail.com** (not Talktalk.net). Please save the new email address.

If you do accidentally email the old talktalk email then don't worry, it will be forwarded to the new email address (but we will close the account in a few months time).

### Quiz answers from the September newsletter

1. Alec Guinness
2. 1st Samuel
3. Charlie Drake
4. The Rolling Stones
5. Jim Laker
6. Orinoco
7. Sarajevo
8. Isoceles
9. Granada
10. Laika

## **October 2025 Diary Service Dates**

**Sunday Morning Worship we welcome you to join us on:**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October** – Sunday Worship led by Mr Graham  
Campling from 10.30am

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October** – Harvest Festival led by Rev Will Fletcher  
from 4.30pm

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – Holy Communion led by Rev Will Fletcher  
to include the rededication of the Pastoral Visitors from 10.30am

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October** – Sunday Worship led by Mrs Christine  
Sweet from 10.30am

### **Sunday Evening Worship on Zoom**

Every Sunday evening, we join our friends from CSUA for an evening time of Worship held online from 6pm, unless otherwise stated.

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October - led by Rev Will Fletcher

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October - led by Rev Evans-Routley

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October - led by Deacon Vicky Welsh

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October - led by Rev Evans-Routley

Every Tuesday evening, we join with our friends from Haywards Heath for evening prayers from 8pm online.

Every Wednesday morning from 10.30am we join our friends from Haywards Heath for Bible Book Club. Refer to the weekly church notices for more detail.

All are welcome to join us for any of the online sessions, please ask Rev Will for the access details. Contact details are 01444 215652 or Will Fletcher [will.fletcher@methodist.org.uk](mailto:will.fletcher@methodist.org.uk).

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in the month – midweek communion from 12.15pm all are welcome in the back hall at BHMC

We love to have your input items for the newsletter. Please send your items for inclusion in the October Newsletter to [bhmcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bhmcnewsletter@gmail.com) before the deadline of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025.