



*Burgess Hill*

*Methodists*

## *Issue 62 March 2026*

*Be a light Oh Lord  
To our eyes  
Music to our ears  
And contentment to our hearts.  
Be sunlight to our day  
Food at our Table  
And rest in our night.  
Receive into your protection  
Our body and soul  
Our freedom and our life,  
being about your business  
Let us live to your Glory.*



*Amen*

*A 16th century prayer found on the Methodist Church website*

*Our mission statement:  
We are called to be a  
growing, inclusive,  
evangelistic and  
justice-seeking Church*

# Reflection

March 2026

*Pause. Breathe. Make space for God.*

This is the strapline for the Methodist Church's Lent resources. Our journey into Lent began, as always, with travelling with Christ into the wilderness. We often think about the hostility of the arid landscape, which is understandable. Yet it also provides space from the everyday pressures, the bustle of people, the demands on time. Though there was much by way of trial and struggle for Jesus as he fasted in the wilderness for forty days, maybe it also allowed him that opportunity away from everyone else to pause, to breathe, to make the space for God that would be needed as he launched his public ministry, and all that the following three years would throw at him.

Often in Lent we are encouraged to give something up, or take something on. We can often focus on activity; on noticeable changes in our lives, our communities, our world. Yet maybe Lent should also be about creating space to pause, to breathe, to be open to God with no agenda.

There are ancient Christian practices – of fasting, of meditating on Scripture, of various patterns and ways of praying – that can be good to consider. It might be creating opportunity for stillness and silence in a world often dominated by rush and noise. These are not always easy things because they aren't about results or about learning or about achieving. In fact, to many (and possibly even ourselves) they might seem like a waste of time.

However, they are about making space for God without the usual distractions of mobile phones, televisions, to-do lists. It is a space for God to meet us where we are, as we are, affirm that we are loved, and lead us to discover the even greater riches of God's life for us if we are open to embrace it.

It is common for people to look at the story of Mary and Martha in Luke 10 and decide whether they are more of a Martha or a Mary – someone who is a doer, or someone who is more contemplative. By and large, Methodists often see themselves as Martha, getting on and doing. May this Lent be a challenge to all of us who are naturally this way inclined, to pause, to breathe, and to make space for God. May we make time to set aside the distractions and the busyness, and be open to the life in all its fullness God desires for us all.

With every blessing,

*Will*

# FREE Online training in April

## Share the gift of **encounterprayer** . . .

### Father



**The reality of the Father's love for us**

Worship him for choosing you to be his child and for loving you so much.

### Jesus



**Taking seriously the presence of Jesus with us**

Ask yourself: Where is Jesus for you right now? What do you want to bring to him? How does he respond?

### Holy Spirit



**Becoming aware of the power of the Holy Spirit within us**

Invite him to come and fill you afresh and bring to you all that you need.

*Would you like to learn how to lead a simple, but powerful, prayer time in your church, your house group or with your family?*

**APRIL 14 & 21**  
Two 1-hour sessions on zoom:  
13.00-14.00

**We have some great resources to share with you**

**A quote from one of our trained facilitators:**

*"I too love "Encounter Prayer" and how it encourages guests to meet with Jesus themselves and as such creates an independence for them to encounter God without relying on an intermediary".*

**Send us an email to register for the training and we will send you the links and further information:**

**chm@  
healingmission.org**

**encounterprayer**

A SPACE TO MEET WITH THE LIVING GOD FOR  
RELATIONSHIP • HEALING • TRANSFORMATION

# Quiz!

Here is the quiz for March. I hope you will enjoy it.

1. Who was the Ancient Greek god of the sun.?
2. Aureolin is a shade of which colour?
3. How many faces does a dodecahedron have ?
4. How many minutes are there in a full week ?
5. December 26th is known as by what name in Ireland ?
6. What city is known as the Eternal city ?
7. In which country would you find Mount Kilimanjaro?
8. Which river flows through the Grand Canyon?
9. What is the capital of Canada?
10. Can you name the 5 Great Lakes?



# Word search

## Christian

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

risenfromthegrave  
eyesoflove  
justified  
redeemed  
spikes  
faith  
saved  
held  
joy

canceleddebt  
sanctified  
ridiculed  
soldiers  
suffer  
happy  
Shout  
King  
Son

straightpath  
christian  
disciple  
Father  
thorns  
heart  
Amen  
kiss

goodshepard  
conquerer  
forgiven  
heaven  
crown  
Jesus  
died  
Sing

Holy Spirit  
Hallelujah  
forsaken  
Praise  
dance  
loved  
free  
IAM

# Church News

## **6<sup>th</sup> March World Day of Prayer**

It is the World Day of Prayer on 6<sup>th</sup> March, there will be a service in the Salvation Army Hall, Cyprus Road 10:30am all welcome

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**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 4pm:** service at Crowborough Methodist Church taken by our district chair, Conrad Hicks.

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## **EASTER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

As Easter is early April I thought it best to include these dates in this newsletter:

### **Maundy Thursday 2nd April**

Service at Haywards Heath Methodist Church 7:30pm to include holy communion.

### **Good Friday 3rd April**

Please note there's no service at the URC.

There is a service at Haywards Heath Methodist Church. 9:30 until 12 noon.

This will be a reflective time for people to drop in and spend time in quiet contemplation. Music will be played. Every 30 minutes there will be a short Bible reading a reflection and prayers read. This will take around 10 minutes.

### **Easter Sunday 5th April**

**Please note: Our Easter Day service at Burgess Hill MC is at 4:30pm**

This is to enable Will to take the service in our church, not the hall, it will also include

Holy communion

Hot cross buns will be served after the service along with tea and coffee

## 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

1. Apollo
2. Yellow
3. 12
4. 10,080
5. St Stephen's Day
6. Rome
7. Tanzania
8. Colorado River
9. Ottawa
10. Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario.

## March 2026 Diary Service Dates

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

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March** – 125<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary led by Rev Pauline Crispin from 10.30am

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March** – Sunday Worship led by Rev Will Fletcher from 4.30pm

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March** – Holy Communion led by Rev Will Fletcher from 10.30am

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Sunday Worship led by Mrs Margaret Taylor from 10.30am

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** – Sunday Worship at United Reformed Church 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 1<sup>st</sup> March – led by Rev Will Fletcher

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March – led by Rev Barbara Evans – Routley

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March – led by Rev Andy Melvin

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – United Service led by Rev Conrad Hicks *from 4pm*

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Barbara Evans – Routley to include Holy Communion

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 for both online services.

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

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 email Will Fletcher: [will.fletcher@methodist.org.uk](mailto:will.fletcher@methodist.org.uk).

We love to have your input items for the newsletter. Please send your items for inclusion in the February Newsletter to; [bhmcnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bhmcnewsletter@gmail.com) before the deadline of Friday 27th March 2026