



**Jersey
Methodist Circuit**



Away Day

Farewell Lunch – JMWLC

**Autumn break at the
Biarritz**

Generations

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Les Conteurs

Circuit Diary

3 October 2021

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PRAYER POINT

Circuit Facebook Prayer of the Week (Katie Norman)

Loving Lord,
be at the very centre of our relationships,
be they with family, friends, strangers
or Your hurting creation.

Methodist Church Prayer Handbook, Day 3

Praying with Christians in West Africa (Benin, the Ivory Coast and Togo)
The South East District

Christians Together in Jersey – Mutual Intercessions

This month: those in the construction industry

This week: Business Connect and the ministry of Paul Milbank

LETTER FROM REV DAWN – ASSISTED DYING

Dear Friends

Some information was circulated last week from Christians Together in Jersey. I appreciate that some of the material regarding Assisted Dying offers a particular Christian perspective. The Methodist Circuit is very much a part of CTJ so I felt it important to share these available resources with you. I am not, however, suggesting this is the only point of view and when details from the Circuit Meeting reach our church councils you will be made aware that the Circuit Meeting attendees agreed that a Circuit get together to talk about this very important and challenging issue will be arranged in the early autumn.

As Methodist people we know that we can discuss difficult and challenging subjects together and often times find we have quite different opinions. I hope this will bring an opportunity for those who have some quite firm views on either side of this debate and those who do not know what to think yet to come together to have fruitful conversations.

Blessings

Dawn

The Rev'd Dawn Saunders

Chair of The Channel Islands District & Superintendent of The Jersey Circuit

AWAY DAY – SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

Rev'd Dr Jonathan Dean, who is Director of Learning for Ministry for the Methodist Connexion, recently led an 'Away Day' at the Biarritz for the Circuit Leadership team and leaders in our Churches.

The day was as brilliant as the September sunshine. It got us thinking, got us talking and got us sharing. We started off by looking at our own personal gifts and then looked at the gifts and barriers we have as a Circuit under four headings; Spiritual, Material, People and Cultural. To help stimulate our thoughts and discussions, we were asked to select a picture from a wide range on display and tell the group the reason why we had chosen it. This stimulated some very interesting insights!



We then began to dream! Many will be familiar with Martin Luther King's famous speech which began 'I had a dream....' We were asked to complete the sentence "We cannot be satisfied as long as...", which generated a variety of responses.

Having shared and discussed so much we tried to develop our thinking into some themes under the four points of our Methodist Calling; Worship, Evangelism, Learning & Caring and Service.

Finally, in an attempt to start discerning potential ways forward and any 'quick wins', we rounded up the day by listing points under 3 headings; what we 'Won't do', 'Might do' and 'Will do'. We all agreed that putting Jesus at the centre and encouraging a prayer culture should be at the heart of all we do.

Having covered so much, the team wanted to reflect on all that had been discussed and over the next weeks and months will be giving more thought to how we live out our discipleship in worship and mission as a Circuit. We look forward to sharing our ideas with you – for the kingdom of God is among you.

(Rosemary Parker, Circuit Steward)

FAREWELL LUNCH – JERSEY METHODIST WOMEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB



On Wednesday, 22 September 40 ladies and 1 gentleman (Rev Danny) met at the Biarritz Hotel for a lovely 2 course lunch. Although it was sad, it was a joyful meeting up with friends, some whom we had not seen for over a year. Deacon Sally gave us a very interesting talk followed by prayers for absent friends and all who have gone before us. The afternoon finished at approximately 3.00pm with a promise we will try and organize a Christmas meal if we can find a venue to suit all.

(Barbara Rumfitt)

AUTUMN BREAK AT THE BIARRITZ



Getaway, but not too far away, at The Biarritz Hotel this autumn! Stay in a gorgeous sea view room, on a bed and breakfast basis, and enjoy the stunning views of St Brelade's Bay from our elevated vantage point. October stays are available from £60.00 per person per night and upgrades are available at a reduced rate. Give us a call as soon as possible to secure your place! Offer valid until the hotel closes this season (23 October).

Tel: 742239 or Email: reception@biarritzhotel.co.uk

GENERATIONS

Generations is back at Ebenezer - hooray! Friday 17 September saw younger and older members of the community working together on bookmark projects, sharing drinks and biscuits, singing and laughter. Amy read *The Lion Inside*, a story about confidence, self-esteem, and a shy little mouse who sets out on a journey to find his roar – which appealed to everyone. The fun of the afternoon was delightfully summed up by Nessie and her young assistant



HARVEST AROUND THE CIRCUIT

Georgetown



*All things living he doth feed,
His full hand supplies their need;
Let us, with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind*

Donations were split between the Women's Refuge and the SHMC foodbank and the proceeds of the Circuit community coffee morning and special collection will be sent to the All We Can Haiti Appeal

William's pumpkin



*Push, little seed, push push, little seed,
Till your head pops out of the ground.
This is the air, and now you are there
You can have a good look round.
You'll see God's sky, you'll see God's sun,
You'll feel his rain-drops one by one,
As you grow, grow, grow, grow*

William Kirwan, aged 3 is developing superb gardening skills with his grandmother, Claudette Renouf (Georgetown). His pumpkin (another one is destined for Ebenezer - sshhhh!) is only one of a whole range of vegetables they are cultivating together and William is clearly enjoying watching the miracle and abundance of seed to fruit or vegetable. Perhaps we can be similarly child-like in our thankfulness for all God gives us.

St Martin



*For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
Thanks be to God.*

A spectacular celebration of the harvest of land and sea

SHMC



*In our world-wide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.*

The bounteous donations will be given to the SHMC food bank

St Ouen



*Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping,
Hopes and fears of sun and rain,
All our thinking, planning, waiting,
Ripened in this fruit and grain*

The members split their donations between The Grace Trust, The Tinathon, Womens Refuge and the Beresford Kitchens

Bethlehem

At their harvest thanksgiving in early September, food donations were passed on to the Grace Trust.

Since then they have celebrated the Feast of Tabernacles, Sukkot. This is Israel's 'Thanksgiving' and is a joyous harvest festival celebrating the completion of the agricultural year. Heidi Waight and Janet Taylor were responsible for the various arrangements around the church.



LOU HICKLIN – NEWLY QUALIFIED WORSHIP LEADER

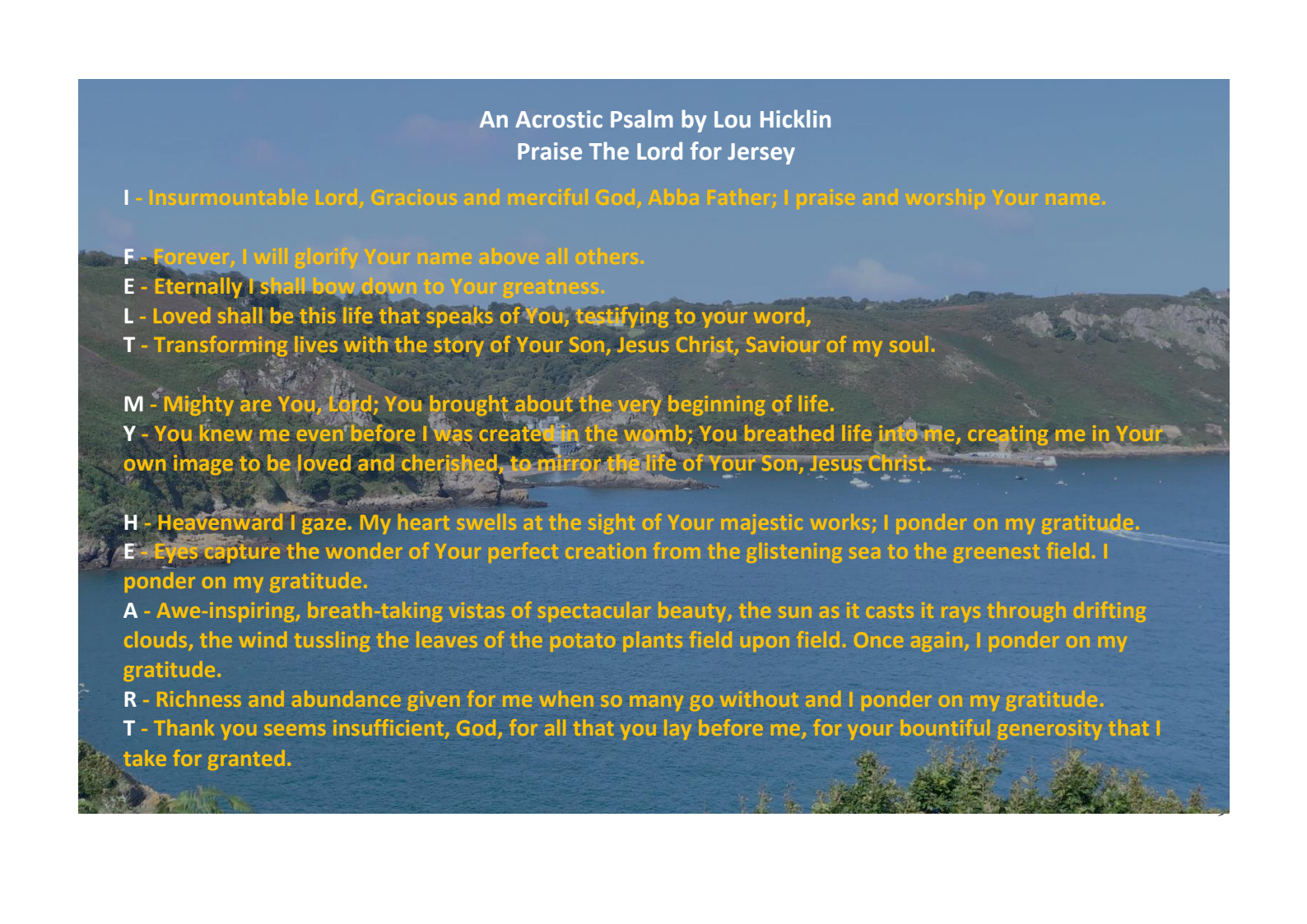
It has been six years since I first made the decision to answer God's call to Worship. I can't say it has been an easy road, but then God never said it was going to be easy! Looking back over those years I can now see just how



important it was to travel that journey, not just with God, but with input from all of you around the circuit. It gave me an opportunity to discover God, not just within my own heart, but within the hearts of others. I have spent some amazing times and will be forever grateful to all those who shared with me along the way, all those who invested so much time and effort in guiding me to the finish line. I have learned a great deal and am so excited to be able to share everything I have discovered with churches around the circuit. I hope to

offer, alongside our amazingly talented Ministers and Lay Preachers, just what it means to be a child of God and the rich relationship he offers us.

Lou Hicklin



An Acrostic Psalm by Lou Hicklin
Praise The Lord for Jersey

I - Insurmountable Lord, Gracious and merciful God, Abba Father; I praise and worship Your name.

F - Forever, I will glorify Your name above all others.

E - Eternally I shall bow down to Your greatness.

L - Loved shall be this life that speaks of You, testifying to your word,

T - Transforming lives with the story of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Saviour of my soul.

M - Mighty are You, Lord; You brought about the very beginning of life.

Y - You knew me even before I was created in the womb; You breathed life into me, creating me in Your own image to be loved and cherished, to mirror the life of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

H - Heavenward I gaze. My heart swells at the sight of Your majestic works; I ponder on my gratitude.

E - Eyes capture the wonder of Your perfect creation from the glistening sea to the greenest field. I ponder on my gratitude.

A - Awe-inspiring, breath-taking vistas of spectacular beauty, the sun as it casts its rays through drifting clouds, the wind tussling the leaves of the potato plants field upon field. Once again, I ponder on my gratitude.

R - Richness and abundance given for me when so many go without and I ponder on my gratitude.

T - Thank you seems insufficient, God, for all that you lay before me, for your bountiful generosity that I take for granted.



S - Such sadness I feel, Lord. How heavy is my heart that the tears fall? How much anguish at the ruination of You precious creation?

T - Tears of deep sorrow for the devastation handed down generation to generation by your children on earth, for the desecration of land and seas.

R - Ransacked and ruined by the very people you created to care for it.

A - And yet you continue to love us unconditionally, continue to call so that I among many may see,

N - Not only with my eyes, but in the very depth of my soul, the destruction of the world.

G - Grant me, Lord, the ability to hear You, the passion to act justly and to work for change.

E - Enable me to help your people to put right the wrongs we have laid down for centuries

L - Lavish me with your mercy, Lord, that I may do my part to cleanse creation, and your grace that I may understand the truth of the sorrow this must cause You.

Y - Your Will be done, Lord, Your kingdom on earth, a long-awaited promise.

W - Wondrous God, I am transformed from within by walking through life's journey with You.

A - Aid me to appreciate and wonder at Your constant generosity.

R - Recharge me with Your Holy Spirit and fill me up with your endless steadfast love and devotion.

M - Mighty and majestic is Your name, Lord. I call to you in my darkest hour knowing you will answer.

E - Every fibre of my being shall sing to You, Father God.

D - Devine is Your love, Gracious and merciful. Abba, Father, Forever I will worship You.



IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK SINGING!

LES CONTEURS SINGERS

and guests

in concert at

**BETHLEHEM METHODIST
CHAPEL**

on

Friday 15th October, 8pm

Refreshments

Retiring Collection

CIRCUIT DIARY

On **Friday 1 October, 8.00pm** at the Jersey Arts Centre there will be a presentation **Jersey's Climate Emergency: How did we get here?** Led by Jonathan Renouf and co-hosted by Action for Wildlife, National Trust for Jersey. £7 (£6.50 seniors + £5 students). To buy tickets [click](#)

Sunday 3 October, 6.00pm there will be an all-Island ecumenical service and candlelit vigil as a spiritual **call to climate action**.

Sadly most of us know and have contact with folk who have dementia in some form or another whether it be just the first tell-tale signs or whether it be fairly advanced. The **Dementia Friends programme** aims to change the way people think, act and talk about dementia. **St Aubin Methodist Church** is hosting a Dementia Friends session (lasting about an hour) on **Saturday, 9 October at 10.00 am** to help us learn about what it is like to live with dementia so that we can then be more understanding and confident about relating to people with this condition. Anyone of any age can become a Dementia Friend. If you wish to attend please let Jill know on 499470 (messages can be left on the answerphone.) It will also provide another opportunity to have coffee and biscuits at the end with time to stay on and chat!

The Messy Church District Zoom discussion is on **Monday 11 October at 7.00pm**. The Zoom link will be circulated nearer the time and it will be led by Rev Dawn.

Caroline Bois received confirmation in May that she had passed her final Faith & Worship modules, and after a successful conclusion of her final interview on 8 September she was unanimously accepted for recommendation for **full accreditation as a Local Preacher**. Her service of Recognition, Compromising and Accreditation service will take place on **Sunday 20 March**, with guest preacher the Rev'd David Miller, Superintendent Minister, Launceston Area Methodist Circuit. Further details of the service will be available in due course. -

If you have any item for the **next newsletter** Sunday 17 October, please send it in **before Friday 8 October**.

Apologies, no space in this edition for a cartoon – too much news!