



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

Bless us as we meet together, gracious Lord, we pray. Bless the singing of the hymns, the reading of your word, the sharing of our fellowship, the prayers that will be heard. Bless us as we meet together, gracious Lord we pray.

We send love and blessings to those amongst our church family and beyond who are suffering illness, loss or loneliness at this time. Our prayers are with you.

Love and warm greetings to all our friends who are unable to get to church – you are still very much part of our church family.

Sunday 31st May

Tewkesbury

10.30am – Locally arranged service for the Easter Offering dedication

6pm: United Service at Priors Park Community Church

Sunday 7th June

9.15am – Wild Green Breakfast Club

10.30am – Service of Holy Communion – Revd Steve Ward

11.45am – Church Annual Meeting

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

Tuesday 2nd June – 2.30pm – Wives and Friends

Thursday 4th June – 10am Craft group in the hall

Thursday 4th June – Men Allowed

Friday 5th June – 2.30pm – Choir practice in the hall

Saturday 6th June –

10.30am – Coffee morning

We have a supportive and caring prayer group at our church who continues to pray for those both in the church family and the community about whom they have been notified. Please write any special requests for prayer in the book in the vestibule, but please have the recipient's permission to do so.

UPCOMING DATES –

Saturday 13 June – 10.30 Eco group

Sunday 14th June – Circuit Assembly at Tewkesbury Methodist Church at 3pm followed by tea at 5pm and worship at 6pm. Evening worship led by Sue Peat.

Tuesday 23rd June 7.30pm – Church Council meeting

Saturday 27th June

10am – Book Club

7.30pm – Camerata concert

Sunday 28th June – 3pm Armed Forces Service

MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION – though the work in the church is nearing completion we cannot be sure that the church will be available for June dates. Given that Jayne will be recuperating from her knee operation during July and August we have made the decision to cancel this for the summer and recommence in September. We apologise to those who have been missing this special gathering but all should be well by September.

CHURCH AWAY-DAY AT HOLLAND HOUSE – Wednesday 22nd July

The final balance and details of dietary requirements are to be forwarded to the House on 2nd June so please ensure I have this information today. Thank you – Jean Davies

CROSSPOINT – final reminder that copy is required no later than Sunday 7th June. Many thanks. Jean Davies

WELCOME SPACE – Coffee mornings

The contractors continue to work in the church and it is hoped that all work will be completed in June when some tidying and sorting will be needed to prepare the new servery area. For the time being Coffee mornings will continue in the hall until further notice. We will put a notice outside the front of the church, but please use the side entrance to the link and hall.

PTO



ECO TIPS for June – Take part in citizen science or a local nature event. Citizen science is a way for ordinary people to get involved in scientific research or data collection. There are many projects to choose from and it's easy to make a contribution. Invite others to get involved with you too. Here are some projects that you could help with –

Spend ten minutes counting pollinators:
ukpoms.org.uk. Join in with Churches Count on Nature (6-14 June) – arochoa.org.uk/what-we-do/churches-count-on-nature/
Do a Bee Walk: beewalk.org/uk
Join Great Big Green Week (6-14 June):
Greatbiggreenweek.com

COFFEE ROTAS – Saturday and Sunday

We would appreciate your help in keeping the church open on a Saturday morning by serving coffee. Also if you can assist with serving coffee after our Sunday service, please sign the appropriate rota. Your support would be appreciated.

PASTORAL – please let me know of any of our church family who are unwell or are in need of some support. Our outreach worker, Jan, will be working in maintaining contact with all our church family. Jean Davies

LARGE PRINT – if you are unable to read the words on the screen and the large print hymn books are not suitable for you, please see one of the stewards so we can ensure large print copies are available.

NOTICES FOR JUNE will be prepared by Jean Davies – jed0606@yahoo.com 01684 772178 - The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursday.

God in the Sciences

This is written by Dr. Ruth Banciewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Re-joining the Choir: Why people are the helpers, not priests, of Creation

Urbanisation has taken us away from the rest of Creation, often reducing it in our eyes to a resource that we draw on when we feel like it, or need it. But Jesus said the stones would start praising Him if people didn't (Luke 19:40), and in the Psalms and Job, all of Creation is praising God. There is no hint here that people are needed to enable Creation's praise to

happen. The singing is metaphorical, but it draws attention to fact that all creatures praise God by being themselves. They don't only praise with their 'voices', but with everything else they do as well: eating, running, hopping, grooming, reproducing, and so on (which is a reminder to us that our whole lives can be an act of praise to God).

Our isolation from Creation's praise can add to our sense that the whole world revolves around us and our needs. In reality, Creation is God-centred and 'His name alone is exalted' (Psalm 148:13). The value of Creation for God is not necessarily linked to its value for us – it is of value to God because He made it, He cares for it, and it praises Him.

Genesis 1:28 says that we must "rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground". To rule wisely we need to get hold of the fact that, although we have a special responsibility, we are creatures alongside all the other creatures. One way to ground ourselves in this idea is to re-join the choir and worship God together with every other living and non-living thing on earth.

Rather than being needed to help Creation praise God, we can actually rely on it to help us in our worship. Sharing God's delight in Creation, we can learn to delight in God. In return, the best thing we can do is to let living things recover their full fruitfulness as much as possible so they can praise God fully. We are called to a life of humble service, taking care of each other and everything else on this planet. In this way, we can choose to see other creatures as they are, pointing our attention away from themselves towards God – until we are caught up in their praise of Him.

