



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

Tel: 01684 298650 reverendjaynewebb@gmail.com

Church Website: www.tewkesburymethodistchurch.org.uk



Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless us in our gathering, our speaking and listening, our sharing and worship, our giving and receiving, our coming and going.

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 7th June

9.15am – Wild Green Breakfast Club

10.30am – Service of Holy Communion – Revd Jayne Webb

11.45am – Church Annual Meeting

Sunday 14th June

10.30am – Service – Ian Pascoe

3pm – 5pm – Circuit Assembly

5pm – Circuit tea

6pm – Evening service – Sue Peat

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

Thursday 11th June – 10am Craft group in the hall

Friday 12th June – 2.30pm – Choir practice in the hall

Saturday 13th June –

10.30am – Coffee morning

10.30am – Eco group meeting

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 –

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.

WELCOME SPACE – Saturday Coffee mornings

We expect to be back in the church for coffee mornings from 21st June as the hall and kitchen are booked that morning as part of Tewkesbury's history festival.

In the meantime please keep an eye on notices and also any that are posted at the front of the church regarding access.

Pat Taylor would like to remind the church family that she will send cards of greeting and /or support to those who are unwell, unable to attend church or suffering loss. Please keep her updated as to who might like to receive a card sending love and support.

CHURCH SUMMER FETE – our fete is just 6 weeks away so we would like to appeal for donations for stalls such as book and jigsaws, unwanted gifts suitable for re-gifting, tombola prizes etc. Please note no bric-a-brac – if in doubt please speak to a steward. If you would like to assist with a stall maybe for an hour or two please see one of the stewards.

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.

PTO



CROSSPOINT – the summer edition should be ready for distribution on Sunday 21st June.

COFFEE ROTAS – Saturday and Sunday

We do struggle to keep the church open on a Saturday morning as we have only a small team now that are able to assist. If you can volunteer an occasional Saturday – maybe a family member would be willing to help out? – it would be greatly appreciated. Also if you can assist with serving coffee after our Sunday service, please sign the appropriate rota. Many thanks.

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

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

1st June - Justin the Martyr on the road to Damascus

Sometime in the summer of 165AD seven Christian men were put to death in Rome. Accused of belonging to an illicit religion, they refused point blank to offer sacrifices to pagan gods. Threatened with torture and execution they replied that suffering and death gave them confidence to appear at the Great Tribunal 'of our Lord and Saviour.'

The sentence was pronounced and having been scourged, all seven were beheaded. Their leader was named Justin and we know him in Church History as Justin the Martyr. His conversion to Christianity, although a quiet and low key affair, is a story that should be known.

Justin was born in the year 100AD in Samaria, near the modern town of Nablus. His family was Gentile and pagan and as a young man Justin was drawn to the study of philosophy. Soon he was a recognised pagan philosopher, and he began to travel as an itinerant teacher, wearing the distinctive cloak of the philosophers. He tells us that his search for truth led him to study the

various schools of Greek philosophy, but in none of them could he find the assurance he was looking for.

Then something happened that radically changed his life. Walking one evening by a seashore, he fell into conversation with an old man. Justin listened as the old man told him that the prophecies of the Hebrew Bible had been fulfilled and they could be found in the writings of the Christian Bible. He further told Justin that truth can only be known through the one true God and that His Spirit would enlighten Justin. Justin was deeply moved by the conversation, began to read the New Testament - and was converted to faith in Christ.

Now a Christian believer, Justin continued to travel, still wearing his philosopher's cloak but now preaching and teaching the Christian gospel. He wrote two *Apologies* explaining and defending the Christian faith. He travelled to Asia Minor and finally to Rome where he taught in a Christian school. His strong defence of Christianity came to the notice of the authorities and he was arrested with six of his friends. Refusing to acknowledge pagan gods, they were executed together. Who was the old man who introduced Justin to Christianity? We don't know and Justin doesn't even tell us his name, if he ever knew it. Justin's conversion happened because a Christian witnessed to him. We should use every opportunity we have to pass on the Good News.

