



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

Let me hold fast to You, beautiful Lord, whom the angels themselves yearn to look upon. Wherever You go, I will follow You. If You pass through fire, I will not flinch; I fear no evil when You are with me. You carry my griefs, because You grieve for my sake. You passed through the narrow doorway from death to life, to make it wide enough for all to follow. Nothing can ever now separate me from Your love.

Bernard of Clairvaux 1090 -1153

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 22nd March –

Apperley 11am – Revd Jayne Webb

Tewkesbury 10.30am – Stuart Hobbs

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

Tewkesbury 10.30am – Revd John Kime

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

IMPORTANT - With effect from **Monday March 9th** the path to the rear Link doors of the Church will be **CLOSED** for both entry and exit from Monday to Friday whilst building work is carried out at the rear of the buildings. It is anticipated this will be reopened by Good Friday April 3rd if not earlier. Access to the front of the Church and the single door into the Link can be gained via one of the nearby alleys into Barton Street and then in through the front gates.

Thursday 26th March – 10am Craft group in the church

Friday 27th March – 2.30pm – Choir practice in the church.

Saturday 28th March –

10.00 – 11.00 – Book Club

10.30am – Coffee morning

Sunday March 29th

Tewkesbury Churches Together United Service in Tewkesbury Abbey

6.00pm – Wondrous Cross – a meditation based on ‘The Seven last words of Christ’ by Alan Bullard

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday

Please note that the Wild Green Breakfast Club will take place on Easter Sunday but will be held in the church due to the building work. We won't have bacon rolls but the usual cereals and toast etc plus hard boiled eggs and hot cross buns. Everyone is welcome to join us from 9.15am.

Our Prayer group might not be meeting in person at present but will still be praying 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.

AWAY DAY - I am pleased to say we have approximately 28 people signed up for our Away-Day on Wednesday 22nd July including friends from Bishops Cleeve and Winchcombe. I now need to collect your **£10 deposits** please so I can advise the House of our final numbers. Please can you pass this to me preferably in an envelope with your name and marked “Away-Day”. Information re dietary requirements and transport will be sorted at a later date. Please note **deposits are non-refundable**. Thank you. Jean Davies



PTO

ECO GROUP - 7 people joined me for the eco-group meeting on Saturday 14th March, including Jan Hoskins who started a very interesting discussion about the gardens. She had lots of ideas for a sensory garden, but also including a bench (Roger Davis' bench), a water feature, possibly a tree, and a wild flowers area. We agreed to open the meeting to the general public on Saturday 9th May, from 10 to 12 noon, to receive ideas and advice from people who are better gardeners than us.

Tom also asked for a list of biological products that can be purchased, instead of the common supermarket brands: Ecover, Ecoleaf, Bio-D, Kit and Kin, Eco Living, Bumboo. I believe they are all as good as each other, but I only know Ecover, Bio-D, Eco Living and Eco leaf. You probably know you can also use natural products like lemon and vinegar, to clean your house.
Sophie Franklin

March Eco tip - Join with Earth Hour
Earth Hour is a global movement where millions switch off their lights for one hour, to show support for our planet. During Lent it is fitting to reflect on how we live - and how we might tread more gently on the earth.

To take part, switch off your lights from 8.30 to 9.30 pm on Saturday 28th March. Use an hour to take action for the planet. You could calculate your carbon footprint (WWF offers an excellent online tool) and choose one practical action to help reduce it.



BIBLE CLUB - please note that Saturday morning Bible Club will cease with effect from 7th March for the foreseeable future. Thank you to those who have attended in recent months. Jayne.

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

THE ANNUNCIATION

This beautiful event (Luke 1:26-38) took place in Nazareth, when Mary is already betrothed to Joseph. The Archangel Gabriel comes to Mary, greets her as highly favoured, tells her not to be afraid, that she will bear a son Jesus, and that her elderly cousin Elizabeth is already pregnant (with John the Baptist).

The church calendar is never quite as neat as some would like it. To celebrate the Annunciation on 25th March does indeed place the conception of Jesus exactly nine months from His birth on 25th December, but the latter part of March almost inevitably falls during Lent. But the birth and death of Jesus are intrinsically linked – He was born to die, and thus fulfill God's purposes.

The Annunciation is a significant date in the Christian calendar – it is one of the most frequent depicted in Christian art. Gabriel's gracious strength and Mary's humble dignity have inspired many artists. Certainly, Mary's response to the angel has for centuries been an example of good faith in practice – humility, enquiry of God, and trusting acceptance in His will for her life.