



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

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Church Website: www.tewkesburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000



What is there to learn today If not born from the wisdom of past and present? All-knowing God, thank you for your call on every life. Help us to listen for your call on our lives. Inspire us with the wisdom of your teaching and help us to hear your word for today. Amen

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.

Tewkesbury

Sunday 18th May –

9.15am – Praise and Worship

10.30am – Easter offering service (Local Arrangement)

Tewkesbury

Sunday 25th May –

10.30am – Revd Dr Marcus Torchon

Apperley –

11am – Gail Whiting

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

Wednesday 21st May –

10.30am – Holy Communion

Thursday 22nd –

10am – Craft Group

11am – Prayers for the church and community.

Please write any special requests for prayer in the book in the vestibule, but please have the recipient's permission to do so.

Friday 23rd –

2.30pm – Choir practice

6.30pm – Methodist Players' Rehearsal

Saturday 24th –

10.00am – Book Club

10.30am – Coffee morning

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.

DIARY DATES

Saturday 31st May –

7pm – Methodist Player's Concert

Sunday 1st June –

9.15am – Wild Green Breakfast Club

Tuesday 3rd June –

2.30pm – Wives and Friends

Wednesday 4th June –

10.30am – Midweek Holy Communion

Friday 6th June –

Deadline for Crosspoint contributions

Saturday 7th June –

10.30am – Bible Club

Jubilate Chamber Choir (time tbc)

Saturday 14th June –

Afternoon tea at Di and Robins' home – see notice.

Saturday 21st June – Camerata concert

Saturday 5th July –

Church summer fete

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

ATERNON TEA IN THE COUNTRY – Di and Robin Jones have kindly invited members of the church family to tea at their home at Stratford Bridge on Saturday 14th June. To assist with catering please sign the list in the vestibule if you would like to attend and add any dietary requirements. There will be no charge but you are encouraged to make a donation towards church funds.

DINNER LADIES JOINT LUNCH – please can you can add your name to the list in the vestibule if you intend to come to the lunch at The Hunter's Inn on 15th June at 12.30pm as I need to confirm numbers. (As this is a special one-off Sunday booking it has been suggested that partners be invited to join us so please add names of partners if they would like to come). Jean Davies

NOTICES FOR MAY will be prepared jointly by Adrian Shelley and Jean Davies – Email jed0606@yahoo.com or 01684 772178. The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursday.

Tewkesbury Methodist Players

Present



Aspects of Love



An Evening of songs and sketches

at

Tewkesbury Methodist Church

Saturday 31st May 2025 at 7pm



Light Refreshments



All proceeds to Charity

Tickets £3 available on the door



ROGATION SUNDAY – 25TH MAY 2025

In the Anglican Church, Rogation is celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter. Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather.

The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away Winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

In about 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With

his decision, 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial.

Rogation-tide arrived in England early in the eighth century and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogation-tide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a Cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow.

At certain points along the route - at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree, the Cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation is said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At some point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for 'beating the bounds.' It was still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly, parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them. (Do you know yours today?)



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