

TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

Bless this time of fellowship, the opening of our hearts, the hymns that we shall sing, the prayers that will be shared. Bless this meeting of our lives and fill them with your peace, and as we leave this place be the blessing that we give.

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 20th July –
9.15am Praise and Worship
10.30am – Revd Carrie Seaton
Sunday 27th July –
Tewkesbury
10.30am – Neil Grecian
Apperley –
11am – Liz Ledger

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

Thursday 24th -

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 25th July –
1pm – Funeral Joyce Sanders
2.30pm – Choir practice
Saturday 26th July 10.30am – Coffee morning

Please note the Tewkesbury Churches' Together AGM is on Wednesday 23rd July at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church. There is an open invitation for all to attend.

Apperley Church Away day will be held on Monday, July 28th, led by Revd. Jayne, at the Church from 10am until lunch time, finishing with lunch together. Lunch venue to be decided.

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.

GIFT WEEKEND - thank you to all who made generous additional donations to our church funds. It is much appreciated. If you did not have the opportunity that weekend and still wish to make a donation please see one of the stewards or contact Julie May, our church treasurer. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes available in church in order that we can claim an additional 25% of your donation. THANK YOU.

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

AWAY DAY **HOLLAND** HOUSE Wednesday 13th August - I have to confirm final figures and dietary information next week and pay the final invoice. If you would like to join us there is still time - please speak to a steward or give me a call before Wednesday 23rd July. Lifts will be arranged in due course. I would ask that the balance of £30 be paid in the next couple of weeks with either cash to me or a bank transfer to our church bank account. (If the latter please reference the payment as AWAYDAY). Having said that, if you have financial restraints PLEASE do not let this deter you from joining us. Please just contact me confidentially - this is not a Jean Davies problem.

CHRISTMAS FAIR! - yes I'm sorry to mention this in July but we have a lot to organise this year with having the opening of the Angel Exhibition and Christmas Fair on the same day (6th December). So we are suggesting that those interested in helping with the planning and setting up of this event meet with us on Saturday 16th August at 10am to discuss the options. We had a successful summer fete - let's see if we can make the Christmas one even better. Jean Davies

SECTION TEA PARTY – as we have in previous years we will be hosting our section churches (Bishop's Cleeve, Winchcombe, Apperley and St John's) to afternoon tea on Saturday 9th August. We shall be pleased to see anyone who can make it to welcome our guests and share tea and fellowship together.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION our cleaners will be away between 19th and 29th July. Two of our church members have very kindly volunteered to help to keep the church clean during this time but it would be appreciated if you could report any area that needs attention to the stewards.

COFFEE ROTAS – Saturday and Sunday

If you are able to cover a Saturday for our regular coffee morning please sign the rota in the vestibule. Likewise if you can assist with serving coffee after our Sunday service, please sign the appropriate rota. There are only a few regulars doing this now, so your support would be appreciated.

And a big thank you to those who stepped up last Saturday at very short notice in order that we didn't have to remain closed.

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

Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer - also known as the Our Father - than one from the National Anthem and other

sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them.

Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines - spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture - with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).

They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his Faith In The North initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide - perhaps never more so than now.

"Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' truly means."