



## TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000

**This is your day, gifted to us as Sabbath rest, and we will rejoice in it. Bring peace to these busy lives, and calm our anxious hearts. This is your day, gifted to us as Sabbath rest, and we will rejoice in it. 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.**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July –**

**Tewkesbury**

**10.30am – Neil Grecian**

**Apperley –**

**11am – Liz Ledger**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August –**

**Tewkesbury**

**NO Wild Green Breakfast Club**

**10.30am – Revd Richard Clutterbuck – Holy Communion**

### **THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY**

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> –**

**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 1<sup>st</sup> August –**

**2.30pm – Choir practice**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August –**

**10.30am – Coffee morning**

**10.30am – Bible Club with Jayne**

**Apperley Church Away day** will be held on Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 13<sup>th</sup> August – We are looking forward to sharing a quiet time of reflection and fellowship and hopefully be able to enjoy the beautiful gardens. Please can you let me have the outstanding balance of £30 per head in cash, or this can be made by bank transfer to the church account. There is a list in the vestibule of all those going – please indicate if you require a lift or if you can offer a lift. Many thanks. Jean Davies

**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 (6<sup>th</sup> December). So we are suggesting that those interested in helping with the planning and setting up of this event meet with us on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 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

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 3pm** – 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 9<sup>th</sup> August at 3pm. We shall be pleased to see anyone who can make it to welcome our guests and share tea and fellowship together.

## 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.

**NOTICES FOR AUGUST** will be prepared by Adrian Shelley-[adandgillshelley@gmail.com](mailto:adandgillshelley@gmail.com) or 01684 297411. The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursday.

**HOLY DAYS - 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY - What do we really know about Mary Magdalene?**

**F**ake news is not new. Perhaps one old example is the assertion that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute. Back in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century, Pope Gregory is said to have confused her with two other women in the Bible. Medieval Bible scholars also attempted to name an unidentified sinful woman who had washed and anointed the feet of Jesus. As Mary Magdalene is mentioned in the next chapter, they regarded her as the same person! After this, many classical artists painted Mary in various states of undress, perpetuating a falsehood.

So what do we really know about Mary? The Gospels tell us that she came from Magdala, a town in Galilee, and Jesus healed her by casting out seven evil spirits. After this she followed Jesus, with other women, on His ministry providing resources. Later, Mary watched Jesus die on the cross, and having cared for His needs while He was alive, wanted to care for Him after His death

It was when Mary went to anoint the body of Jesus at the tomb that the risen Jesus appeared to her. He told Mary to go to His disciples and tell them about His return to Heaven. She was obedient and became the first emissary of the resurrection. In those days, the witness of a woman was worthless. Despite ridicule, Mary had the courage to speak about Jesus in a place of great disbelief. We have to ask ourselves do we have the same courage as Mary? How prepared are we to stand our ground to share Jesus with others in the face of those who mock and scoff at us?

Although we usually associate Mary with the Easter story, this month on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, the Church celebrates her Feast Day. In this snapshot of Mary's life we know she had experienced great distress and suffering. After Jesus healed her, Mary expressed her gratitude by being utterly committed and devoted to Him.

Jesus can give everyone a new start; a new purpose and direction in life. Like Mary we can thank Him for blessing us, loving us and forgiving us and moving into practical forms of service. Only Jesus can transform our lives so that we can glorify God in all that we do.

