



## TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 11179000



God of love,  
as we travel to Jerusalem,  
keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.  
Anoint us with your gentle touch,  
so that we can follow and praise you in  
this life  
and one day come to your Kingdom in  
Heaven.  
This we ask in the power of the Holy  
Spirit. **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 6<sup>th</sup> April –**

**Tewkesbury**

**9.15am – Wild Green Breakfast Club**

**10.30am – Revd. Jayne Webb – NO Holy Communion**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Palm Sunday**

**9.15am – Praise and Worship**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April -**

**Tewkesbury**

**10.30am – Liz Ledger**

**Apperley**

**11am – Revd Jayne Webb**

### **THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April –**

**10.00am – Art and Craft Group**

**11.00am - Prayers for the church and community. Please write any special requests for prayer in the book in the Vestibule -please have the recipient's permission to do so.**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April -**

**2.30pm – Choir practice**

**6.30pm – Methodist Players' Rehearsal**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April -**

**10.30am – Coffee Morning**

### **DIARY DATES**

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Dinner Ladies lunch**

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April – NO Holy Communion**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April – 10am – Holy Communion**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April – 10am – Short Reflection for Good Friday followed by Walk of Witness**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April Easter Day – 10.30am**

**Holy Communion**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April – 10am – Book Club**

**7.30pm – Camerata concert with Mosaic choir**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – 10am - Bible Club with Jayne**

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May –**

**10.30am – Mid week Holy Communion**

**WALK OF WITNESS** – if you are able please join the Walk of Witness on Good Friday following our service of reflection at 10am. This finishes at the Abbey with a short service and hot cross buns hosted by the Abbey.

**CHURCH “AWAY DAY”** – thank you to those who have signed up for the retreat at Holland House on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August. Can I please request your £10 deposit now to secure our booking? Please pay this to me at church on a Sunday when convenient. Many thanks.

Arrangements for the day will be organised in due course but if you have any suggestions for a discussion or an activity do let me know.

If you have not signed up but would like to come please do add your name. There's plenty of space!

**Jean Davies**

**DINNER LADIES** – Last call today please, for your order for our meal at the Hunters' Inn on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Many thanks– Jean Davies

**WIVES AND FRIENDS** – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May is a special date for the group as it is their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There will be a short service followed by afternoon tea. All are welcome. Please see Jenny LeMarechal for more information.

**COFFEE MORNING ROTAS** – a further list of dates is up in the vestibule if you are able to offer help on a Saturday or Sunday morning. Being open and welcoming on a Saturday is an important part of our mission – please help if you are able. Likewise if you can help make and serve coffee after Sunday worship this would be much appreciated.

**CLIMATE AND CREATION** – Sophie Franklin has volunteered to set up a group to consider our planet and how we should care for it. This could involve -

- *becoming aware of vital connections between climate change and the Christian faith*
- *transforming lifestyles through studying, praying and acting on the issues*
- *inspiring others in the community to live in harmony with the whole of creation*

A meeting has been arranged for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am in the church. If you are interested in being part of this please make a note in your diary and come along.

**MONTHLY BIBLE CLUB** – Jayne will begin a Bible Club (an informal study of the bible) meeting on the first Saturday of the month starting on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 10am. Each session will stand alone so don't worry if you would like to attend but can't make every month.

**GIFT AID AND FUNDS** – if you are a tax payer and normally place cash in the collection plate please consider putting it in a Gift Aid envelope (in the backs of the chairs). Even £1 donation will enable us to claim 25p tax back – it all adds up. Please see me if you have any queries about giving. 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 APRIL** will be prepared by Jean Davies – Email [jed0606@yahoo.com](mailto:jed0606@yahoo.com) Tel: 01684 772178. The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursday.

## **Reflecting Faith: Baptisms and Easter – Revd Dr Jo White**

What time of year were you baptised? For the first few centuries of the Early Church, baptisms were only held at Easter, with the preparation being taught in the few weeks beforehand.

Leo I, Bishop of Rome from 440 to 461 AD, was a strong advocate of holding baptisms solely at Easter.

He wrote: "... for in the baptismal office death ensues through the slaying of sin, and threefold immersion imitates the lying in the tomb three days, and the raising out of the water is like Him that rose again from the tomb."

But, as the years went by and more adults began seeking baptism for their children, the practise changed. The Church was keen to not put any obstacles in the way, and so baptisms became a sacrament to be freely given at any time of the year.

This was especially important because for many years it was mistakenly thought that unbaptised babies should not be buried in a churchyard, and, even more importantly, would not get into heaven.

Thankfully the Church moved away from those wrong positions long ago. Now most of us were baptised when we were very young, often in our first few months of life, at any time of the year.

One thing is certain: baptising a child is not so that God will love them more. It is instead to say that the parents believe in God, and therefore intend to raise the child as part of the family of God.

Have a think about your own Baptism. How old were you? Do you know – if you were a child at the time – why your parents chose that age?

