

A message from the Minister – the Revd Jayne Webb

Dear Friends,

If you were at our Breakfast Praise service in February you will know that we celebrated the coming spring in Celtic Church style. For the Celts, understanding nature and the seasons, the lunar cycles and the tides was hugely important. They depended on this knowledge for their very survival from sowing and reaping their crops to their means of travel (often by sea in tiny, circular, one person boats called coracles).



It was undoubtedly a hard life for the Celts and coping with it required a very close and intuitive relationship with nature, indeed we might say it was a spiritual relationship which underpinned their practical working with the earth. They did not use the language of 'resources' and 'commodities' in relation to the earth as we do today.... rather they saw it as their sister in that, like us, the earth is a created being; and also our mother in that, through God's sustaining power, earth feeds us and nurtures us. For the Celt's God felt very close indeed they would revere the Creator's handiwork in the stars, the trees, the animals, the rivers, the seasons, and in the daily cycle of sunrise and sunset. All of nature was to be celebrated and was a continuing reason to praise God.

One wonders, if we revered God's handiwork today as those Celtic Christians did, whether we would be seeing such environmental degradation and devastation as we are facing right now.

Another theme we focused on in our Breakfast Praise service was that of hope, which is something that we are often reminded of in Springtime. Lengthening days, new born lambs snowdrops, crocuses are all signs of hope in new life as we emerge from the darkness of the winter months and of course, these things also remind us of that ultimate hope of Easter.

We explored how we might spread hope to our neighbours, our
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community and to the environment even though it might seem like a tall order in these difficult times. Yet it does rather seem that there is much to be learnt about **hope** from the Celts too. Their great reverence for God's providence inspired them to be hugely hospitable people. Encouraged by St Brigid (who built the first Irish monastery, in Kildare), the Christian Celts were people of 'the hearth'... in other words a warm fire with hearty food and drink would await friends and strangers alike. The needy could always find help and always but always Christ's presence felt immanent and was readily shared.

So, can we really learn from these, some of our early ancestors, about our own call to serve, to care and to deliver the message of hope. Well I think we can but first we have to understand that it was not so much about what they did but more about how they saw things. Theirs was a perspective which recognised the presence of Christ in people, in nature and in every moment of life - and that sense of Christ's immanence caused them to respond in kind. Being fully present for God, for people and for all created beings! We can imagine it to be an exciting, risky, and sometimes dangerous existence yet in these difficult times in which we live many are becoming increasingly inspired by what we know of the early Celtic Church, their sense of God's presence and their sense of kinship with all creation.

If you want to learn more about Celtic approaches to Church do come along to breakfast praise where we will be exploring more as we go along each month. Also, if you are keen to deepen your relationship with the earth then definitely get involved with our work as a church towards the Eco silver award. If we **all** did just a little in the right direction the change would be quite transformational.

Blessings
Jayne



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St Francis who was deeply influenced by Celtic monasticism expresses so much in this prayer.

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord, All praise is Yours, all glory, all honour and all blessings.

To you alone, Most High, do they belong, and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.

*Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,
And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
by which You cherish all that You have made.*

*Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,
So useful, humble, precious and pure.
Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,
through whom You light the night and he is beautiful and playful
and robust and strong.*

*Praised be You my Lord through our Sister,
Mother Earth
who sustains and governs us,
producing varied fruits with coloured flowers and herbs.....*



Well here we are having survived the dark, dull month of January and now heading towards Spring. The snowdrops have been a picture in many gardens and churchyards and the daffodils are bravely budding.

In this issue we have a copy of the eulogy read at Denis Green's thanksgiving service last month. As someone who was

well-known to many of us, Denis's life makes interesting reading. John Beardsley continues his fascinating history of the Christian Church. We also have our usual contributions from our section churches – always good to hear how they are getting on when we don't have the opportunity to meet up often. There are also details of our Easter services and various Lent groups that are happening both in Apperley and through Churches Together in Tewkesbury. Do have a look at these and see if one would suit you. We have also started a new regular page about Eco-Church and how we can best take care of God's earth.

The next issue will be out in May – your articles and contributions are always welcome. If you have any suggestions for content then do let me know. And as ever, do share your family news with us.

As the period of Lent approaches we focus on our relationship with God - maybe choosing to give something up, as we reflect on Jesus' time in the wilderness. And then we have the joy of Eastertide and the Resurrection – a wonderful time in the Christian calendar!

Jean Davies

"For as by a man came death, by a man has come the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive".
1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Church Family News from Tewkesbury

We send our love and prayers to Kath Hutton, Bette Martin, Jackie Dobbs, Dianne and Terry Harrington, Dorothy Metcalfe, Denise Dempster, Pat Taylor, Anthea Budget and Anders Alling. Anders (resident in Sweden).



We remember and send our love to all the members of our church family who live in Residential Homes: Joan Bottrell, Nora Booth, Joan Batsford, Nellie Pearson, Nesta Harris and Irene Pye.

Most people will now be aware that Denis Green died recently and a service of Thanksgiving was held at our church in January. The service was attended by over 130 people, testimony to the high esteem he was held in by so many. Denis, together with his late wife June, were members here for many years, and contributed greatly to the life and work of the church.

We also remember Lucy Diamond, who died just before Christmas. Many of you will remember Lucy coming over from Cirencester on the bus on a Saturday morning for coffee with us. I heard from Lucy's mum who said they were most grateful for the support and friendship Lucy received from Tewkesbury Methodist Church. We will miss her.

We also send greetings to all those who have moved away but still receive a copy of Crosspoint.

We have received joyful news from Carrie Seaton - **A MESSAGE FROM GRANNY CARRIE!** Many thanks to all the friends who have sent cards and good wishes to Colin and I on the safe arrival of Laurence (Larry) Seaton, born 23rd January 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

OPEN CHURCH STEWARDS

I thank everyone who volunteered as Open Church stewards.

I do appreciate their co-operation, commitment and time to enable our Church to be open for visitors over the six years I prepared the rotas.

Joyce Cooper

We thank Joyce for her years of sorting out the rota – not always an easy task. Julie May has kindly volunteered to take over the rota from the Spring, and more volunteers will be sought to keep this valuable outreach possible. Please consider helping by offering a morning or two each month – it will be greatly appreciated.

2019 Tewkesbury Churches Together Lent Courses

Tuesday 1.45pm at Twynning (12th and 26th March and 5th April)
Easter story in John's Gospel

Contact Angela Cole on 01684 294325

Tuesday 7.30pm at Wheatpieces (12th March and 2nd and 9th of April)

Luke's gospel

Contact Annie Parkes 01684 296450

Wednesday at St.Nicholas (Throughout Lent)

“Shapes for Living” diocesan course.

Contact Suzanne Grindrod 01684 293729

Thursday 10am Back of Avon (7th and 21st March, 4th April) Epistle of James

Contact Ali Rowlands 01684 293071

However did we arrive here?

or

A potted history of the Christian Church in umpteen parts Part 4

I am writing this during "The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity", so will concentrate on how we arrived at the need to pray for Christian Unity!

For something like 1000 years there was one "Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church", centred in Rome (Catholic means "worldwide" or "universal"). That is not to say, of course, that there were no controversies, heresies, or even the occasional break-away movement. Even in the New Testament we find tensions between Peter and Paul - and I certainly would not have wanted to chair Church Councils at Corinth! However, it was not until 1054 that a major split occurred, the so-called "Great Schism", the culmination of centuries of unease between East and West, between Rome and Constantinople (twin centres of the Holy Roman Empire), between Latin and Greek theology and worship. From 1054 the Eastern churches rejected the authority of Rome and the Pope, and became known as the Eastern Orthodox churches. Today they are the main representatives of Christianity in countries such as Russia and Greece.

Travellers from the west enjoying a post-Easter break in those countries are sometimes surprised to find that they are experiencing a second Easter! Whilst Catholic and Orthodox churches accept the same date for Easter - the first Sunday after the Full Moon following the vernal equinox - they use different calendars! The Catholic Church adopted the revised Gregorian calendar, when it was introduced in 1582, whilst the Orthodox churches retained the Julian calendar, dating back to the time of Julius Caesar.

After 1000 years of one Church, there followed just over 450 years of two Churches.

Then, in 1517 a young monk called Martin Luther expressed his deep concerns about the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church, and in particular the sale of Indulgences to raise money for the building of

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St. Peter's at Rome, by nailing 95 Theses (Complaints) to the door of the University Church at Wittenberg, in northern Germany.

(Indulgences, it was claimed, would release your own soul or even that of dead relatives, from Purgatory - "The moment the money tinkles in the collecting box, a soul flies out of Purgatory"). This was to lead to the Reformation, the split that meant the 2 divided churches became 3 - Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant. And ultimately the many that we have today. Of which, more next time.

John Beardsley

TRAIDCRAFT STALL

As you may know we decided to start a Traidcraft stall in our church after the closure of the Christian Aid Lunches held on the first Wednesday of the month. It was a step into the unknown but after twelve months trading it has proved to be a great success. The Sunday morning sale after the service on a Sunday has been particularly success although the Saturday morning one (during the coffee morning) has been slow at times. We are pleased to announce that for the twelve months to the end of January 2019 we banked £1866. Thanks to all who have supported us by purchasing the goods and by helping to tidy away afterwards. Also a special thanks to Sophie Franklin for her help in manning the stall and doing the advertising.

Just a reminder that the sales are held in the church after service on the second Sunday and during the coffee morning on the fourth Sunday each month. Please tell your friends and neighbours about the Saturday morning stall so that we can spread the word about FairTrade in a practical way.

Roger and Dorothy Davis



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NEWS FROM APPERLEY

From Peter Stych



Since the wonderful activities of the Christmas season January generally seems to produce a rather more quiet time. Even the weather this year has only just realised, at the beginning of February, that it should be giving us some 'real winter'. Let us be thankful that we have so far been able to get about unhindered by bad weather. We won't tempt it though!

The next quarter - March to May - is looking a bit busier as we shall have Spring Church Council, 2 Circuit Assemblies, and the joys of Easter.

As our Anglican friends are currently interregnum their Curate is being pro-active and we have arranged for Apperley Anglicans and Methodists and Tewkesbury Methodists, and anyone else who would like to join us, to share in a Lent Group produced by Gloucester Diocese. You can find details advertised in the separate panel. Do come and share in this ecumenical group.

Our United Palm Sunday Procession will this year start at the Anglican Church on the Green at 11 am and walk to the Methodist Chapel for the remainder of the service. Once again everyone is welcome to join this local act of witness.

As referred to in the last edition our Bizzy Fingers ladies will start taking their Tuesday morning knitting group to Ashchurch View care home on February 12th. If you would like to join them please let Margaret or I know and we can help with transport. The visits are planned for the second Tuesday every other month and we hope that ladies at the care home will join us for those occasions.

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NEWS FROM HARTPURY

From Liz Ledger



We seem to be in a constant whirl of busyness at Hartpury! After waiting for a long time to get permission for our initial kitchen renovation permission to start work on the schoolroom came through in a matter of weeks, builders were advised that we were ready for them and they were able to start almost immediately. They arrived on January 21st and are expecting to have completed the work by 14 February. Thanks are owing to Mary who worked hard to get the permissions granted and the builders on board - good work, thank you Mary! The changes in the room are amazing; the damp atmosphere and peeling paint have gone and already the room is more usable. In the midst of all this work we did manage to have a Saturday Lunch on February 2nd. and customers were very impressed with the work so far. We are planning to have a relaunch celebration when all the work is complete although I think we might need a space to catch our breath in! We are very happy with our current outreach work and have started working with the Anglican church in Hartpury to plan a festival in July. It is lovely to be working more closely with these friends and between us we could achieve great things in the community, God willing.

Our church services are attended by a regularly high percentage of the membership and this is complemented by our ability to work as a family team. We look forward to the future while enjoying the present and praise God for the work he is doing among us.

We welcome Lindsey to our congregation and send good wishes to Eveline, who is ill.

And we send greetings to all of you, brothers and sisters in Christ, and pray that you will feel as blessed over the next few months as we do now.

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NEWS FROM TIBBERTON

*From Christine
Gardner*



News, first of our church family, Bill and Margaret Balmforth

celebrated their Platinum Wedding Anniversary (70 years) just after Christmas. Although Margaret remains in a nursing home they enjoyed a family celebration and were very proud to receive a card from the Queen. Our congratulations to them both – we do miss them being with us on Sundays.

Marking the closure of our chapel, we were recently asked to give a talk to the local history society. It was intended to be about the history of the chapel but we decided to call our talk “the adventures of Methodism in Tibberton” and as we prepared we realised those adventures began long before the chapel was built, as early Methodists held open air meetings by the roadside or walked miles to worship at the nearest chapel. And we hope the adventures still continue. There is certainly an interest in Methodism if the record attendance at that meeting of the local history society is anything to go by.

The war memorial stone bearing the names of those men from the village who died in both world wars has now been removed from inside the chapel. It was sited temporarily further down the road near the Church Room and a special time of remembrance marking the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 was held there on 11th November. It is hoped that the stone will be used as part of a permanent memorial to be completed later this year.

The Advent group was very encouraging and brought people from several different churches; it was good to share our thoughts and experiences together. Our Lent group will be taking place on five Wednesday evenings beginning 13th March when we will be following another York Course entitled “Daring to see God now”, which promises

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to be interesting challenging. The after-school club will also be meeting again in March.

“Together at 3” on the third Sunday is going really well. Each time Jayne has led an informal, meditative form of worship and discussion, which has been supported by friends from Tibberton and further afield. Our hope is that as this becomes established we will be able to reach more people who are perhaps hesitant to come to a traditional service in church. Jayne led our Methodist Covenant service in the parish church at the beginning of February. Although we have often held a united Covenant service at the chapel, this was a first for the parish church, and was much appreciated by the Anglicans present who greatly outnumbered the Methodists! We look forward to more exciting times this year as we work and worship together.

First Monday



The First Monday Fellowship is a new weekday group that brings together three former groups.

The Fellowship, which as its name says, meets on the first Monday of each month (with possible changes on Bank Holidays) is open to both women and men. It is held in the Guild Room at 2.30pm.

The February meeting, at which Hilary Woolford spoke in a moving and interesting way about *Unity in Diversity*, was very well attended.

The next meeting on Monday 4 March at 2.30pm will be asking those attending to think, in our confused and worrying nation and world, about Good News stories, which rarely appear in the news. The session will be led by Michael Jebson.

Remember – the First Monday Fellowship is open to all.

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We need some more people to help with our OPEN THE BOOK team. Could you help?

Open the Book is a nationwide project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear the major stories from the Bible. Tewkesbury Methodist Church has a team which presents *Open the Book* assemblies in two local schools – Tirlbrook primary and Alderman Knight special school.

One of the members of our team is leaving us soon and we need a replacement, but also, we will welcome anyone who would like to join the team to relieve others who are not available from time to time.

We visit Tirlbrook about every two weeks on a Thursday, meeting at the church first at 9.15am for a rehearsal and to sort costumes. Alderman Knight we visit once every half-term term on a Tuesday and go straight to the school for 8.30am where we rehearse on the premises. Taking part will take a little over an hour out of your day – and you will find it a very rewarding experience. It is a privilege to be welcomed into these schools and to know that the children enjoy our presentations so much.

If you would like to know more about what it means to be part of the *Open the Book* team please see any of the following people: Clair Prosser, Gill Shelley, Eileen Beardsley, Roger or Dorothy Davis or Michael Jebson.

(Open the Book fulfils both OFSTED and Church School inspection requirements for Collective Worship. It is managed by the Bible Society.)

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PLEASE WILL YOU HELP US!



...and it's coming to a church near you soon!



Our church has registered with “EcoChurch” – an awards scheme for churches in England and Wales, who want to demonstrate that they care for God’s earth. We want to “go green” in all areas of our church life – from worship to building management, outreach to personal lifestyle.

All the work we do together will count towards a Bronze, Silver or Gold Eco-Church Award.

One aspect of this in which we can all help is what we do to recycle and reuse items. Currently, we have two blue recycling bins in the corridor outside the main kitchen, and a small recycling bin in the kitchen at the front of the church. These bins will take plastic bottles, cans, paper, cardboard (including biscuit boxes when used at coffee mornings). There are also waste food bins in each kitchen. We urge you to use these bins, and think about what you are binning before it all goes into the land-fill rubbish bin. We will label the bins and put some additional notices in the kitchens to bring this to the attention of those hiring our premises.

In the Church car park we have two wheelie blue recycling bins, 2 wheelie green bins for general waste, and one wheelie brown bin (for garden waste and flowers but NO paper!)

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We would ask that you as individuals think carefully about what you can recycle, and also church groups when disposing of items no longer of use. If you have any queries or want help with items that might need to be taken to the Stoke Orchard Recycling Centre, then please see either of us.

We endeavour to purchase environmentally friendly products such as photo-copying paper, and hand towels and toilet tissue, and we intend to extend this to cleaning products as well.

If you have any further suggestions as to how we can avoid waste, please let us know! You may find it interesting to have a look at the eco-church website – ecochurch.arocha.org.uk.

We believe we are ready to apply for the Silver Award, but are working towards the next level. With your help we can do it!

Thank you and happy recycling!

Patricia Turner and Jean Davies

World Day of Prayer – Friday 1st March at 1.30pm at the Baptist Church – this is a service shared around the globe with 120 countries and islands worldwide. This year the service is prepared by the women of Slovenia. Do please join us if you can for this interesting and very moving service. “Come – everything is ready!”

MESSY CHURCH DATES 2019

Dates for 2019 are Saturday 13th April, Saturday 29th June, Saturday 21st September and Saturday 30th November

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Denis Hall Green 1931 – 2018

Denis was born in Tynemouth on 5th September 1931 to Fred and Nellie Green and as soon as he was old enough he joined the 5th Tynemouth Scout Group ...the start of a life-long association with Scouting. Denis' brother Donald was born in 1945 to complete the family. In 1946 the family moved to Colchester in Essex with his father's job and Denis went to the Colchester Royal Grammar School where he was a model student. At that time he joined the 17th Colchester Sea Scouts where he started his love of the sea and sailing and rose to the position of Assistant Scout Leader and was awarded the Kings Scout Award (just like his father before him and in 1980 Alistair completed the trio when he gained his Queen's Scout Award). Hilary also became a Queen's Guide!! In 1950, Denis started a Degree in Civil Engineering at Queen Mary College (University of London) and threw himself into university life as a member of the Sailing Club, Country Dance Club and the Methodist Student Society where he confirmed his faith as a Methodist. He graduated in 1953 with his BSc. Whilst in London he took part in the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – something he was very proud of.

His first job was working for Sir Robert McAlpine on the construction of the Marchwood Power Station near Southampton. During this time he met June at the Totton Methodist Church and so started a wonderful and loving relationship. In 1955 he started his national Service in the Royal Engineers and rose to the rank of Lieutenant as part of the Driver Training Regiment at Aldershot.

Through Sea Scouts he kept on sailing and built his very own sailing dinghy which he loved to sail with June on Southampton Water.

In 1957 he moved to Bradwell in Essex where he worked on the new nuclear power station. During his time there he made lifelong friends with Frank Welch and crewed on Frank's 40ft yacht. They remained friends up until Frank's final race in Cowes Week in 1977 when both Denis and Alistair crewed together.

Denis married June on 5th April 1958 in Southampton and shortly afterwards moved up to Scunthorpe where he worked on a new plant for British Steel. Alistair was born in 1960.

In 1961 the family moved south to Colchester where Denis took up a new career in the design of sewage works...he always said it was a job for life. Whilst living in Colchester June and Denis took up Scottish Country Dancing and continued to enjoy it for well over 40 years; they joined Culver Street Methodist Church where Denis became Communion Steward. In 1963, Hilary was born to complete the family. 1965 saw another move with work, this time to Redditch in Worcestershire, where Denis designed the sewage treatment systems for the "new town" being built. When Alistair joined the local Cub Scouts in 1967 Denis re-joined Scouting acting as Group Chairman and then Group Scout Leader of the 1st Redditch Scout Group. Whilst in Redditch, Denis was heavily involved in the design and opening of a new church to bring the local Methodist and United Reformed churches together in one new building as the original churches had to be demolished as part of the new town development.

In 1976 the family moved to Tewkesbury as Denis had a new job with Severn Trent Water and within 6 weeks he was roped into becoming Group Scout Leader for 3rd Tewkesbury. He retired from work in 1986 and June and he enjoyed a very busy and active retirement with many varied roles in Scouting, Tewkesbury Methodist Church and also volunteering as "welcomers" at Tewkesbury Abbey. They enjoyed many wonderful holidays and particularly loved cruising.

After June died in 2006 Denis continued an active life within the Church until his health started to fail a few years ago.

He remained immensely proud of his family and in particular his two grandchildren Rebecca and Jonathan.

For the last 2 ½ years Denis made his new home at Tewkesbury Fields Care Home. He was so happy there and has touched the lives of many members of staff over his time as a resident. In his final hours it was very touching and comforting to see so many of the carers, nurses and activities staff coming in to quietly say their goodbyes.....many came in "out of hours" and took time to read from his Bible and just talk to him although he was unconscious. In many ways he was a part of a whole new family who loved him.

Denis' devotion to Scouting had a profound effect on so many young people who joined the 3rd Tewkesbury Scout Group where everyone knew him simply as "SKIP". His family have been overwhelmed by the many comments they have received from ex-Cubs and Scouts who have given grateful thanks for his positive contribution to making them

the people they have become.

His wish was for the unusual symbol on the order of service...a small stone placed inside a ring of stones. This is an old scout tracking sign and was used to signify the trail was over and...." I HAVE GONE HOME".



Breakfast CHURCH

Breakfast Praise

Breakfast Praise is a fairly new venture for TMC and is held on the ***first Sunday of every month***. It is intended to appeal to all ages and involves storytelling, songs, activities, drinks and bacon butty. Hopefully this will offer a relaxed approach so that younger families can feel more in tune with but it is by no means purely for the younger generations. Whatever your age please come along

and support this - maybe bring your grandchildren or just come to try it out anyway. It begins at 9.15 and ends at 10.00 and will be held in the Hall. For those who choose to stay on for our usual service of communion this will follow at 10.30 in the church.

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Not Quite Right?

In 1973, I started a degree in Chemistry and Geology, swapping my rural seaside community for the exciting and gorgeous campus of Nottingham University. Our Chaplain, Revd Peter West, was expecting me and I was soon on the committee of the Baptist Society. He worked closely with Revd Dr Stuart Burgess (MethSoc), Revd Lesley Morley (AngSoc) and others in pastoral support of our student life. As students, we led the united services on campus, services in Nottingham Prison, worship in local churches as well as community projects.

Whether students from one denomination or a mix, we always had a warm welcome. This was normal to me, coming from a town where all the churches worshiped together. Working together did not involve boring compromise. Rather, there was a healthy examination and testing of ideas leading to something positive. Debates lasted until 3am, although, to be fair, by then it was usually only me and a lifelong Roman Catholic friend, our Student Union Rep, talking. (Paul later became an MP and has introduced me to peers and colleagues in Westminster as his first campaign manager!)

As the society's President, I visited other Christian groups. I was surprised to find criticism. To a minority, our theology was 'not quite right'. Some fundamentalists could not accept our Christianity! They had no debate, just entrenched positions. Their view was largely inwards with occasional sorties to convert the converted to their way. There was little social awareness or outreach.

I settled in Tewkesbury exactly forty years ago! Sadly, early experiences of inter-denominational interactions here were disappointing. I am glad to say, prayers were answered and **Tewkesbury Churches Together (TCT)** was formed. All those I know who saw certain churches as 'not quite right' now understand that every church has something to offer the community (spiritual and temporal).

My last AGM report gave a flavour of the extensive cooperation which now exists between the churches. Please pray for TCT and that the Forum may find a new treasurer in the summer. Feel free to talk to me or Jean Davies if you would like to learn more about the inspirational

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ecumenical work going on in our town under the umbrella of TCT. Alternatively, visit www.tewkesbury.church

If you like healthy debate, why not ask Revd Jayne Webb or me about the new group '**Outside the Box**' which will meet on the fourth Sunday evening each month. Thinking outside the box, can it ever be 'not quite right'?

Dave Amies (TCT Forum rep)
01684 210010 or info@tewkesburycross.org.uk



Peter Milford died a few weeks ago – this is one of his poems which we thought appropriate to include in Crosspoint.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION by Peter Milford

As I look back, my heart is filled with joy,
For I can see the Lord's hand all the way;
Joy that he ever came into my life;
Joy that he's been my Saviour day by day

As I look up, I find I still can trust;
Resting in one who deals so tenderly;
For my weak faith is strengthened as I learn
How firm and deep the love of God can be.

As I look on, I need not be afraid,
Though life may stumble, and its light grow dim;
For I have yet to see my precious Lord,
And step into a glorious life with him.

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Lent Group 2019

An Ecumenical Lent group has been arranged this year for Apperley and Tewkesbury and will be led by our Minister Jayne, Apperley C.of E. Curate Kay, and others.

With the title '**Seeking Shapes for Living**' it will

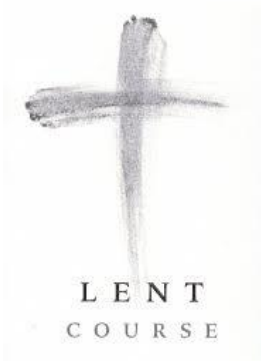
- offer a fresh way of exploring what is traditionally called a Rule of Life
- be about the whole business of being alive - with ourselves, each other and God
- be a way of growth, transformation and flourishing
- help to hold us true to our beliefs, values and priorities.

It is produced by Gloucester Diocese Worship and Spirituality Group

Meeting at **Apperley Methodist Church**

Thursday afternoons 2.30pm

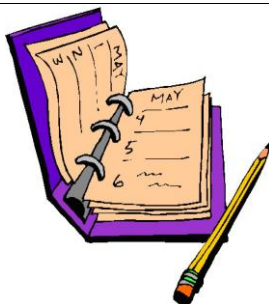
14th, 21st, 28th March, 4th and 11th April 2019



If you have never tried anything like this before, just come along and give it a go!

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



March

Friday 1st March – World Day of Prayer 1.30pm at the Baptist Church

Sunday 3rd – Breakfast Praise 9.15am

Saturday 9th – Action for Children Quiz and Supper 6pm

Sunday 10th – Circuit Assembly, Churchdown Methodist Church

Tuesday 19th – Church Council 7.30pm

Sunday 31st – Mothering Sunday Service

April

Sunday 7th – Breakfast Praise 9.15am

Saturday 13th – Messy Church 3-5pm

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Wednesday 17th – “Jesus My Boy” production

Thursday 18th – 7pm Holy Communion

Good Friday 19th – 10am service followed by our joining the usual

Good Friday Walk of Witness which ends with a short open-air service in the Abbey Grounds followed by Hot Cross Buns.

Easter Day – 8.30am Holy Communion

- 10.30am – Holy Communion

May

Sunday 5th - Breakfast Praise 9.15am

Sunday 19th – Church Annual Meeting 12.00

Sunday 19th – Circuit Assembly Bishop’ Cleeve

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June

Sunday 2nd – Breakfast Praise 9.15am

Saturday 8th – Afternoon strawberry tea and “Love Letters” presentation

Saturday 29th – Messy Church

Sunday 30th – Armed Forces Service 3pm

CHURCH SERVICES –

Any alteration to dates and or times will be shown in the weekly notices (also available on our website). The church is also open to visitors on Saturday mornings (coffee morning) and most Wednesday mornings between 10am and 12 noon during the winter months.

A service is held every Sunday at Tewkesbury at 10.30am service (with occasional changes to times as per the notices).

*10.30am service **with** Holy Communion is the 1st Sunday of each month.*

Breakfast Praise takes place on the 1st Sunday of the month at 9.15am.

*An evening service **with** Holy Communion is held on the 4th Sunday of each month at 6.30pm.*

We do not have a Junior Church as such, but all families and children are welcome to any of our services though there will be particular emphasis on involving children in our 9.15am Breakfast Praise.

CROSSPOINT MAGAZINE COSTS

We would appreciate your continued financial support for the production of Crosspoint, which costs about 60p a copy to prepare. There is a box in the church porch for donations. The suggested donation is 60p per copy or £2.40 for the year. Those who pay annually by cheque please mark the envelope clearly. Thank you for your support.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF CROSSPOINT (June, July, August) to Jean Davies (Tel: 01684 772178) by Sunday 5th May please.

Articles including family news are welcomed. It helps if you are able to send via email. Send to Jean Davies: jed0606@yahoo.com

Crosspoint March, April, May 2019

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Priorities for the Methodist Church

To proclaim and affirm our conviction of God's love in Christ, for us and for all the world; and renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the church

Main contacts for Apperley and Tewkesbury Methodist Churches

Minister: The Revd Jayne Webb

Tel: 01684 298650

*Who also has pastoral responsibility for the following churches
in our section: Hartpury and Tibberton)*

Apperley Senior Steward – Peter Stych Tel: 01452 780508

Tewkesbury Senior Steward

Linda Sallis Tel: 01684 294169

***We are in the Methodist Circuit of Gloucestershire, part of the Bristol
Methodist District***

Web site for Apperley and Tewkesbury Methodist Churches

www.tewkesburymethodistchurch.org.uk

Tewkesbury Church phone: 01684 291101 This is situated in the vestry with an extension to the vestibule kitchen and is intended primarily for use by church officials and for emergency use.



IMPORTANT Booking rooms and events

If you are arranging any event on the church premises of Tewkesbury Methodist Church, the room and time must be arranged with the bookings secretary, Roger Davis Tel: 01684 293423. Church events at other venues, such as at home, should be put on the Church Calendar in the hall.



CROSSPOINT is planned by the Tewkesbury Methodist Church Publicity and Editorial Group: Jackie Dobbs, Dorothy Davis, Jean Davies, Jane Dickinson, Hilary Jebson, Michael Jebson, Frank and Pat Manning, Adrian Shelley. Colour section and cover design by Adrian Shelley. Children's pages by Jane Dickinson.

Photographs as credited. Crosspoint is printed on recycled paper. We are members of the Association of Church Editors (ACE)

Crosspoint March, April, May 2019

Breakfast **PRAISE**

First Sunday of the Month

Tewkesbury Methodist Church

9.15am until 10.00am

ALL are welcome

more details

Clair Prosser

01684 291101

tmcfow@outlook.com

Typos (errors whilst typing) – the bane of every church magazine editor’s life! Here are a few that have occurred in the past (not ours!) and will make you smile…….

The sermon this morning: “Jesus Walks on Water.” The sermon tonight: “Searching for Jesus.”

Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don’t forget to bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: “Break Forth Into Joy.”

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What Is Hell?” Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM--prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.