



TEWKESBURY & APPERLEY METHODIST CHURCH NOTICES

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Tewkesbury Methodist Church: Registered Charity no. 1179000

A prayer for closeness with God

Loving God, help me feel connected to you so that you may use me where you have placed me. Help me draw close enough that I may see with your eyes, hear with your ears and think with your mind, because you are a just God and justice is a part of loving. Let me support victims who aren't recognised and people excluded from the accepted circle. Enable me to help people who are suffering because others seek to increase their wealth. Empower me to advocate for children who cannot fulfil their potential or for those whose voices aren't heard. Bring me out from my comfort zone. Stop me just acting in my own interests. Let me do right! Amen

Margaret Lee, steward, Borders Mission Circuit

We send love and blessings to those amongst our church family and beyond who are suffering illness, sadness 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 16th February –

Tewkesbury

9.15am – Praise and Worship Fellowship

10.30am – Leprosy Mission Service – Revd Jayne Webb and Gill Shelley

Sunday 23rd February –

Tewkesbury

10.30am – Robert Carr

Apperley

11am – Revd Jayne Webb

THIS WEEK AT TEWKESBURY

Tuesday 18th February –

7.30 pm – Property and Finance meeting

Wednesday 19th February –

10.00am – Midweek Holy Communion

Thursday 20th February –

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 21st February

2.30pm – Choir practice

Saturday 22nd February

10.30am – Coffee Morning

DIARY DATES

Saturday 1st March –

10.00am – Pastoral Visitors' meeting

Sunday 2nd March –

9.15am – 10am – Wild Green Breakfast Club

Thursday 6th March – Men Allowed

Friday 7th March –

LAST DAY FOR CROSSPOINT ARTICLES

2.00pm – World Day of Prayer service – Baptist Church

Saturday 8th March –

10.00am – Book club

Sunday 16th March –

Circuit Assembly

CHURCH "AWAY DAY" – following several requests we have booked a day at Holland House on Wednesday 13th August. Can you please let Jean know fairly urgently if you would like to attend as we have to confirm numbers and pay a non-refundable deposit.

DINNER LADIES – We have not been very active in recent months but I have now reserved a table on **Tuesday 25th February at 12.30pm** at the Tudor House Hotel. If you would like to go please add your name to the list in the vestibule where you will find the menu as well. We will need to pre-order so please see Jean with your choices. Please note all ladies are welcome – do join us if you haven't been before. We are not exclusive! Numbers are limited. Jean Davies

PASTORAL VISITORS – Please can we meet on Saturday 1st March at 10am at church to share up-to-date information about our lists. Please let me know if you are able to attend. Jean Davies

WORSHIP FORUM – we would like to establish the Worship Forum group again to meet informally about 3 or 4 times a year to discuss content for locally arranged and special services. Please see Jean if you'd like to be involved – we will arrange a meeting – probably on a Saturday morning to come together.

ECO-GROUP – we would like to bring an Eco-group together to consider what we can do as a church to be eco-aware and help our planet. We also need to revisit the Arocha website to confirm our silver status and work towards the Gold award. There is a list in the vestibule if you would like to add your name if you would be interested in helping with this.

BIBLE CLUB – Jayne would like to begin a Bible Club (an informal study of the bible) meeting on the first Saturday of the month starting on Saturday 3rd May at 10am. Do let stewards know if this is something you would be interested in attending. More information to follow when we are aware of support.

MEMBERSHIP TICKETS – these are now available to members and will be distributed in March with the Crosspoint magazine. (If you would like yours before then please see Jean Davies).

ETHICAL BANKING – Sophie Franklin has provided some information about ethical banking. Briefly this is an opportunity to try to persuade banks to stop loaning money to fossil fuel diggers who are effectively destroying our planet. There are some leaflets in the church together with some more information from Sophie (which will also be in the next edition of Crosspoint). Please do have a chat with her if you want more information.

GIFT AID AND FUNDS - a reminder that if you pay tax your giving to the church is eligible for 25% tax relief eg your donation of £10 is worth £12.50 to the church.

If you are a tax payer but prefer to give a cash donation during the service please make use of the Gift Aid envelopes in the vestibule or in the chairs. Your £5 donation is worth £6.25 to the church.

Please see me if you have not yet completed a Gift Aid form. Also if you have previously completed a form but are **no longer a tax payer** I need to know to amend my records.

A big thank-you to all those who continue to give what they are able in support of our

church and its work. Sadly our overall giving has reduced significantly over the past few years and even with additional income from other sources (Lettings, coffee sales and general fundraising etc) we are not able to meet our financial commitments - hence the drive by the Welcome Space team to increase our income.

Any further suggestions as to how to raise funds are always welcome.

CHAIRS - As you are aware the chairs in church are to be replaced by new ones which will be lighter, easily stacked and moved on trolleys. A sample of the new chair has been in the Church for several weeks now and an order for 80 of the new chairs will be placed in the coming week. The existing chairs have now been sold and will stay in the Church until the new ones are delivered. ***Each chair costs about £175 and if you feel you would like to make a contribution to this cost and/or sponsor a chair*** please contact Adrian Shelley who would be pleased to talk to you about it. Your Welcome Space Team.

CARDS - If anyone knows of someone who is currently poorly or in hospital, please speak to Pat Taylor who will send a card on behalf of the church family.

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.

GREEN TIP – Boots in Tewkesbury now have a box for depositing used medication blister packs. Please make sure there are no tablets left in the packs before putting them in the box. Please pass your green tips on to any of the stewards for inclusion in our notices. Reuse, Recycle and Save. Our commitment to recycling is part of our Eco Church Silver Award.

NOTICES FOR FEBRUARY will be prepared by Jean Davies – Email jed0606@yahoo.com or 01684 772178. The deadline is 4.30pm on Thursdays.