



WOT'S ON DECEMBER 2015 AT DURSLEY TABERNACLE URC

**CONTACT THE MINISTER, REVD SIMON HELME:
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**ANYTHING FOR THE JANUARY WOT'S ON SHOULD BE GIVEN OR EMAILED TO
GILL OR VIC WATTS BY SUNDAY 13TH DEC DUE TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.**

- Tue 1 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.**
Wed 2 Dec 10-1pm Family Café meet in the church helpers needed.
Sat 5 Dec 7pm Rednock Swing Band & String Ensemble. Entry £3/£5/£10 family.
Sun 6 Dec 10.30am Advent Communion Service led by Rev Simon Helme.
Theme: God is Love: Of Royal Descent. Readings: Isaiah 11.1-9; Matthew 1.18-25
Tue 8 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.
Tue 8 Dec 2pm Knitting Group meet in the church.
Wed 9 Dec 10-1pm Family Café meet in the church, helpers needed.
Thu 10 Dec 7.30pm Cotswold Chorus Annual Christmas Concert in the Tab.
Tickets £6 include seasonal refreshments from members or on the door.
**Sat 12 Dec 7.30pm Cheltenham Silver Band Concert Tickets in advance from
Ron or Liz Swanwick £8 Adults children under 16 £4. £10 and £6 on the door.**
**Sun 13 Dec 10.30am 3rd Sunday in Advent led by Rev Simon Helme. Theme:
God is Love: The Praising Shepherds. Readings: Micah 5.2-5; Luke 2.1-20**
**Sun 13 Dec Advent Tea 2.45-4.30pm Come and join us for tea, cake and
entertainment. Everyone welcome. Please see Hilary or Martine for transport.**
Tue 15 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church all are welcome.
**Tue 15 Dec 2pm Women's Guild Christmas Tea with entertainment. There will
be a collection in aid of Gloucestershire Deaf Association who help support
deaf and deaf-blind people in Gloucestershire with communication both with
Other deaf and deaf-blind people and with those who have no problems so
they are able to cope in the outside world rather than stay isolated.**
Tue 15 Dec 7.30pm Open Door Christmas Carol Service
Wed 16 Dec 10-1pm Family Café meet in the church helpers needed.
Thu 17 Dec 7pm Elders meeting in the Vibe.
**Sat 19 Dec 9.30am-12.00 Christmas Coffee Morning in the Community Rooms,
with Christmas stalls etc. This is the last Coffee Morning, PLEASE SUPPORT IT.**
Sun 20 Dec 10.30am Nativity Service led by Junior Church.
6pm Carol Service by Candlelight followed by seasonal refreshments.
Tue 22 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.
Thu 24 Dec 5pm Christmas Eve All-Age Service around the tree.
Wed 25 Dec Christmas Day United Service at the Tab.
Sun 27 Dec 10.30am led by Brian Lamming.
Thu 31 Dec 8.30pm New Year's Party for all ages with bring and share supper.

FLOWERS FOR NOVEMBER WERE KINDLY GIVEN BY:-

1 Nov Ronnie Harding, 8 Nov Sally Larkham, 15 Nov Shelley Barnes,
22 Nov Joan Whiting 29 Nov Kathryn Palmer

FLOWERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE NEW YEAR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A DONATION TOWARDS THE FLOWERS IN CHURCH PLEASE SEE RONNIE HARDING.

PRAYER FOR DECEMBER

Jesus... born in a stable, may we honour you by serving those who are homeless now.

Jesus... a refugee in Egypt, may our concern for today's refugees be part of our witness to your love for all people.

Jesus... you offer us your peace, may our searching for peace in the world be part of our service to you.

Jesus... who received the gifts of Wise Men, may we give ourselves to you and to each other in selfless service and joyful fellowship.

Jesus... who gave all for us - even your life - accept our lives and warm our hearts again with love for you as we celebrate your coming among us to become one of us. **Amen**

Gloria would like to thank all the people that helped make this years Christmas fayre a success, It would not have happened without you. On **December 19th** Gloria and Mike are hosting a Christmas Coffee Morning in the lower hall, with stalls selling table decorations, cakes, holly, and gifts, there also will be a raffle. so please come have a chat and see what we have on offer.

Christmas Post:

The Tabernacle Christmas post box will be set up in the vestibule on **Sundays 6th and 13th December** we will be operating an internal mail system for you to give Christmas Cards to one another. Please put your Christmas Cards in the mail box during the above dates. The cards will be ready for collection on **December 20th**. Alternatively there will be a card you can sign on the Remembrance table at the front of the church. Please give a donation for the postage saved in the box provided.

Christmas Appeal: money raised from Christmas Cards and at the collections taken at the Christmas services will be divided between Christian Aid's Refugee Crisis Appeal and support for our Nicaragua Summer Mission Team. Those wishing their donations to go to Christian Aid should put their money in the envelopes provided. loose money will go to Nicaragua.

Please put your cards in alphabetical order, fastened in an elastic band.

Cheltenham Silver Band Concert 12th December 7.30pm

The extremely entertaining Cheltenham silver band have agreed to put on a special Christmas concert for us at the Tabernacle. This award winning silver band has a reputation for a very wide repertoire and so there will be a few carols but most of the concert will be a wide mix including a bit of jazz, some show tunes and a couple of classical pieces. The bands mission is to spread the joy of music. This should be a very entertaining night and we hope you will support it.

NEW YEAR'S EVE TAB PARTY: After missing last year we intend to have another of the successful and enjoyable Tab Party to bring in the New Year. **Starting at 8.30pm** and going on until after midnight the Party usually combines something for all ages from young to old; a combination of games, dancing and entertainment. Anyone willing to offer to run a game, do some entertaining, or lead a dance or challenge – please contact Simon Helme. As usual we will have a Bring and Share Supper – savouries and sweets and bring a bottle (alcohol is allowed)

Child Contact Centre need more volunteer helpers.

The Child contact Centre was set up by the Churches of Cam and Dursley eight years ago and meets in the Tab Community Rooms fortnightly on Saturday afternoons. The Centre tries to provide a neutral venue where the non-resident parent of separating families can keep in contact with their children. It is a vital and much appreciated service to help families in crisis. Volunteers just provide a friendly welcome and a caring environment. For more details please contact Liz Swanwick or Simon Helme or Iain Hearn.

Free Money from The Giving Machine! As Christmas approaches shop online to generate free money for the Tab. Simply route your purchases through TGM website by selecting Dursley Tabernacle URC as your chosen charity. <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/> For info see Carole Allen. The good news is that, in a couple of years, we have raised £411 in this way. The bad news is that, at the moment, we only have 8 active givers who have generated donations in the last 30 days.

Can you help support Syrian Refugees?

In the New Year we are having a number of refugee families move into our District. Working in partnership with Stroud District Council, the Foodbank, Kids' Stuff and Furniture Bank are providing the items the families need.

We need your help in collecting the following items:

15 beds and bedding 15 wardrobes 15 chest of drawers 5 table and chairs 5 sofa set
5 coffee table 5 washing machine 5 microwave 5 Fridge 5 Freezers

If you have something you can give to help these families call 01453 367260 and we can organise collection.

Lent Groups

Churches Together usually have ecumenical Lent Groups where Christians from different churches and backgrounds can share together during the five weeks of Lent. Next year's course will be looking at the Psalms. If you are interested in leading or hosting a group please get in touch with either Simon Helme or Teresa Potter gnt.potter@btinternet.com

Churches Together are still looking for someone to take over the *co-ordination of the Christian Aid Week collections*. Please contact the above if you are interested.

Sheldon 24th to 26th June 2016. If you have not been on any of our previous Sheldon holidays, do tour their premises by looking at their website www.sheldon.uk.com or ask around the congregation to hear stories of our time there. To book your place on the weekend, collect a booking form from the church and return the reply slip to Carole Allen with your deposit as soon as possible. Contact her on 01453 542807 or caroleallen28@gmail.com for more information or if you have concerns about costs. Places are offered on a first-come first-served basis, so book early to be sure of a space on the weekend. If places are not filled by January we will invite other local churches to join us.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 5-12th November 2016.

Led by Simon Helme, open to the Tab and friends, organised by Worldwide Christian Travel (You can see more at their website: <https://www.christian-travel.com/>).

Simon writes: 'A journey to the place where Jesus lived and ministered is the ultimate in pilgrimage. I have been a couple of times and to walk in the footsteps of Jesus transforms your understanding of the Bible and enrich your faith.'

To go with others is a special experience too. I shall be offering spiritual insight as we journey together. We will also have a local guide to get the most out of our visits.

This will be an amazing opportunity to share our faith journey. Hope you can join us.'

Price £1340

What the price includes

- Return flights from London Luton to Tel Aviv (Details of flight numbers and times have not yet been finalised)
- Accommodation in good quality 4*hotels in twin bedded rooms with private facilities on half board basis
- Transfer of passengers and baggage
- Sightseeing as in itinerary
- Services of a fully qualified English speaking guide
- Travel by air-conditioned coaches
- Entrance fees, gratuities, service, charges and portorage
- Airport taxes

Brochures are available in the vestibule and reception room. Please contact Carole Allen caroleallen28@gmail.com or tel: 542807 or Simon Helme for further details. There will be a meeting for those intending on going and those interested in finding out more about the Pilgrimage on Sunday 29th November at 4.30pm

**Malvern Science and Faith Weekend 2016: Compassion
Education - Science - Healthcare - Economics – Faith
4-6 March 2016, Malvern, Worcestershire**

Opening speaker: Sir Anthony Seldon

For further details and to request a printed copy of the brochure:

Website: www.scienceandfaith.org.uk

Booking: msf2016.eventbrite.co.uk

Facebook: [facebook.com/malvernscienceandfaithweekend](https://www.facebook.com/malvernscienceandfaithweekend)

Twitter: @MalvernSF

Email: info@scienceandfaith.org.uk

Telephone: 01684 565708

Brief description: The theme for the 2016 Weekend is Compassion. There are practical aspects to the theme which are reflected in the different sessions. These include Education, Science, Healthcare, Economics and Faith perspectives. The speakers at the 2016 Malvern Science and Faith Weekend will address the topic of Compassion from their own standpoints, and the accompanying discussions and activities will allow participants to follow up their own interests within this overall theme.

The art and science activity day for children is an essential part of the Weekend. This year, it includes a cartoon workshop as well as demonstrations and art activities.

There is no charge for entry to events at Malvern Science and Faith Weekend. As in previous years, we will ask at each event for your donations towards those costs.

Malvern Science and Faith Weekend is organised by Holly Mount United Reformed Church Malvern working with a small group of committed individuals in the community. Malvern Science and Faith Weekends began in 2012. Their success has led to the formation of a charitable trust, *EngageMalvern*, which is developing this and related work.

Rotas for December 2015

Please swap any duty you are unable to do and inform Liz of any changes. Many thanks.

Date	December 6th	December 13th	December 20 th	Christmas Day (25 th)	December 27th
Duty Elder	Kathryn Palmer	David Pritchard	Will Barrett	Gray Strutt	Martine Carter
Vestry Elder	Graham Strutt	Martin Percy	Rod Irvine	Carole Allen	Hilary Green
First Reading	Matt Welsh	Carole/Dennis Allen	Kathryn Palmer	Terry Larkham	Vivienne Deane
2nd Reading	Shirley Welsh	Gordon Moir	John Palmer		Iain Hearn
Audio Desk	Andy Spears	Lionel Jones	Rod Irvine	Dennis Allen	Carole/Dennis Allen
Flower Arrangers	Diana Baldwin	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Flower Distribution	Shirley Welsh				
Welcome Team	Iain Hearn Martine Carter Hilary Green	Tarina Cieciora Anne Moirez	Carol Bye Malcolm Harris		John Palmer Kathryn Palmer Peggy Tresise
Prayer Team	Elaine Jones Peggy	John and Kathryn	Jackie Pritchard		Graham Strutt

	Tresise	Palmer	Tarina Cieciora		Julie Perin
Coffee Rota	Edna Mellerup Pat Hembury	Avril Lamming Brian Lamming	Gloria Pritchard Mike Pritchard		Jean Harris John Harris

Communion Preparation: Sally Larkham

Communion Servers: Graham Strutt, Terry Larkham, Martin Percy, Kathryn Palmer