



Wot's On?

At Dursley Tabernacle In March 2014

www.dursleytab.org.uk

Sat 1 Mar 2pm & again at 7pm "The Murder Mystery" will take place in the church. **Tickets £6.50p** are available from any Fund Raising member or on the door it will be a great fun evening so invite your friends and relatives.

Sun 2 Mar 10.30am Communion Service led by Rev Simon Helme.

Theme: Joshua: Power with you. Readings: Joshua 1.1-18; Ephesians 1.3-14

6.15pm First Sunday: Taize Style service of songs and silence- an opportunity for informal worship

Mon 3 Mar 7.30pm Simon Helme speaking on 'Faith and Film' at Dursley Methodist's Lent Meeting

Tue 4 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Wed 5 Mar 10am-1pm Family Café meet in the church.

Thu 6 Mar 7.30pm Men's Group Skittles evening

Fri 7 Mar 7pm World Women's Day of Prayer at the Tab: preacher Simon Helme

Sun 9 Mar 10.30am led by Rev Simon Helme.

Theme: Joshua: Help for the spies Readings: Joshua 2.1-16; James 2.18-26

6pm United Lent Service at the Methodist Church led by Revd Simon Helme

Tue 11 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Wed 12 Mar 10am-1pm Family Café meet in the church

Thu 13 Mar 7.30pm Elders Meeting at 18 Knapp Lane, Cam

Sun 16 Mar 10.30am led by Rev Simon Helme. Theme Joshua: Across the barrier
Readings: Joshua 3.7-17; 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13

4.30pm Welcome Tea – at the Tab for newcomers to the church.

6pm United Lent Service at Methodist Church led by Revd Jennifer MacKenzie

Tue 18 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Tue 18 Mar 2pm Women's Guild in the church with speaker Mr Ian Thomas "Railways on Central Europe". All are welcome.

Wed 19 Mar 10am-1pm Family Café meet in the church.

Thu 20 Mar 12-2pm The Corrymeela Lunch in the Tab Upper Hall. £4 minimum

Sat 22 Mar 9.30am Coffee Morning will be held in the Community Rooms hosted by the Women's Guild, gifts of cakes and others items to sell and your support would be appreciated.

Sun 23 Mar 10.30am led by Rev Peter McIntosh

6pm United Lent Service at Dursley Methodist Church led by Dominic Bucci

Tue 25 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.

Wed 26 Mar 10-1pm Family Café meet in the church

Thu 27 Mar 7.30pm Annual General Church Meeting (all are welcome.)

Sat 29 Mar 7.30pm Musical Concert by the local Youth Group Tickets £5 refreshments available.

Sun 30 Mar 10.30am Mothering Sunday led by Rev Simon Helme.

Theme: Wonderful God: God knows me! Readings: Psalm 139; Colossians 3.12-17

6pm United Lent Service at Dursley Methodist Church led by Revd Ian Gardiner

Flowers for February were kindly given by:-

2 Feb The Norris family, 9 Feb Martine Carter,
16 Feb Carol Bye, 23 Feb Eileen Denning,

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

It's great to see Peggy Tresise, Eileen Denning, Chaz Jukes, Joy Strong and Hilary Green back in church after a period of ill health. We are glad to hear Joyce Nicholls is improving and Glyn and Gwynneth Goulden are both feeling better. Emma Byrne has been poorly too so we hope she will soon be feeling better. .

Jan Strutt is still very poorly and we think about her and Gray at this difficult time and pray for them both.

We remember Oscar Cullimore as he continues with his treatment and we pray for him and his mum Nicole.

Gus Smith will be 90 on March 13th all her friends at the Tabernacle send love and best wishes to her as she celebrates her birthday with her relatives and friends.

Congratulations to Sarah Bilous on her marriage to Andrew Ward on March 1st at Carey Baptist Church Reading. We wish them health and happiness in their future together.

We were sorry to hear of the death of our friend Jean Cockram and our oldest member Mabel Lucas, our thoughts and prayers are with their families at his time.

Many members of the Tabernacle will not have known Mabel Lucas who died at the end of January. Mabel at the age of 101 was our oldest member, and we celebrated her 100 birthday at the Hollies Care Centre with her last year. For many years Mabel and her husband Percy, together with her sister Lilian Stapleton worshipped at the Tabernacle. Sadly after Percy's death Mabel rarely came to church, though Lilian was a regular worshipper until her death a few years ago. Mabel has always remained on our care list, and was remembered every week in our prayer list. She was visited regularly by Tabernacle members. Her funeral took place on February 14 in the Tabernacle and we remember all the family in our prayers.

Older members at the Tabernacle will be sorry to hear of the death of Muriel Sambell, Muriel was a member of the Tabernacle for many years before she and her husband Rupert moved to Exeter. She was a valued member of the choir often singing solos on Good Friday concerts, a member of the Tabard Players and a Junior Church teacher. It was Muriel who first introduced us to the Leprosy Mission, holding the first Coffee Morning in her home in Parsonage Street. Muriel always took an interest in the Tabernacle and received the Wot's On every month so she knew she was not forgotten. Our loving sympathy goes out to her daughter Kathryn and husband Martyn who live in Leicestershire. Iain Hearn was able to represent the church at the memorial service in Exeter on February 12.

We were very sorry to hear of the unexpected death of our friend Jean Cockram, who has only been worshipping with us for a few years following her husband's death, but we had come to love and respect her. We were glad to know she was happy in the Tabernacle. We send our loving sympathy to her sons, Chris and David and their families. She was a much loved mother, and grand-mother. Her funeral was on February 27.

SHARE A PRAYER AND MAKE OUR CHURCH A POWERHOUSE OF PRAYER

As we enter the time of Lent may we take time to reflect and consider the events up to the good news of the Easter message. This year we have the opportunity to undertake this reflection and consideration through the weekly Christianity Explored course. An opportunity to understand more our faith and the message of Jesus. We pray that the Holy Spirit will act upon those involved in this outreach and may they touch the hearts of those seeking the love of God.

Lent is also a time to give something up. What are you giving up? Chocolate, cakes and biscuits are often traditional things to give up. Once I told my mother I would give up carrots; the idea did not last beyond Ash Wednesday!! A minister I met when a student in Bristol gives up the traditional list and also becomes a vegetarian for the duration of Lent. However many also give up their free time and put it to God's use; helping the poor or deprived or those in need. This month we think of the Marah Trust, the Foodbank, youth work and other mission works spiralling out from the Tab into the local community. We pray for those who give up their free time and effort to ensure that the lives of those in need are touched by love. We pray that those in need may see and know the love of God and see the face of Jesus in those giving up their time and effort in our community. As we enter this time of Lent may we consider giving up not only the treats that our lives provide for us but also put our time and effort into improving God's world.

As Christians we know how the Easter story ends; throughout Lent we know there is going to be a good ending. We pray that God is with those going through troubled times who do not know what the outcome will be. We pray that they may see light at the end of the tunnel and that we as Christians will provide support through your love and guidance so that the light at the end of the tunnel may be recognised as God's love.

Easter Sunday is seen by many as a more joyous day than Christmas Day. May we take the opportunity of Lent to explore our faith and relationship with God further, put our skills to God's purpose and, like a child deprived of sweets and chocolate for forty days, prepare ourselves for the joy of Christ rising from the dead.

Dates for your diaries

Wed 26 Feb 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Courtyard Café (see below)

Sat 1 Mar The Murder Mystery 2pm & 7pm

Mon 3 Mar 7.30pm Simon Helme speaking on 'Faith and Film' at Dursley Methodist's Lent Meeting.

Wed 5 Mar 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Courtyard Café

Thursday 6th March Men's Group Skittles Night

All gents are invited to a skittles night at the Salutation Arms, Ham on Thursday 6th March at 7.00 pm. The cost is £6.50 which includes a faggots and chips supper. Please contact Ron Swanwick if you would like to go.

Fri 7 Mar 7pm World Women's Day of Prayer at the Tab: led by Rev Simon Helme

Wed 12 Mar 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Courtyard Café.

Thu 13 Mar 1pm Lent lunch at Sharpness URC with talk by Rev Simon Helme

Wed 19 Mar 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Courtyard Café

Thu 20 Mar 12-2pm Corrymeela Lunch in Tab Upper Hall the cost a minimum of £4

This will go to support the reconciliation centre in Northern Ireland

Wed 26 Mar 7.30pm Christianity Explored at the Courtyard Café

Thu 27 Mar 1pm Lent lunch at Sharpness URC with talk by Simon Helme

Thu 27 Mar 7.30pm Annual General Church Meeting

The annual general church meeting takes place on Thursday 27th March at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity to hear about what is going on. We will be voting for new elders and reviewing our current church officers list. Nominations for elders should be with the church secretary by the 10th March. As usual we will have a full set of reports available so that you can read all about the events of the last year. If you are responsible for writing a report email it to Liz Swanwick by the 10th March at the latest (liz52crocker@btinternet.com).

New rota lists will be going up shortly at the back of the church so if you would like to volunteer to read in church, distribute flowers to the sick or housebound, help with the audio system please enter your name on the lists.

Thank You. Liz Swanwick, Church Secretary

Church Directory

The new church directory is now available at the back of the church. Please take your copy. Apologies for any errors! If you need an amendment please let Gill Watts know so that it can be included in the next Wat's On

Erratum: Vivienne Deans' phone number is: 452362 and her email address is:

viv.deane@hotmail.co.uk

CALLING ALL KNITTERS Ronnie Harding is asking knitters if they would be interested in coming to a knitting group. It would be held in the Tab on a Tuesday afternoon, but would not clash with Women's Guild, or the Methodist church group. Please speak to Ronnie if you are interested. All are welcome.

Corrymeela Lunch

Corrymeela Lunch in the Upper Hall of the Tabernacle on March 20 between 12-2pm. The cost is a minimum of £4 and will go to support the recreation centre in Northern Ireland. There will be homemade soups, bread and butter, cheese, chutney, watercress and the choice of many delicious puddings plus tea and coffee.

If you are able to donate a home- made loaf or pudding or are able to help serve please see Martine Carter. Please invite your friends, relatives and neighbours. It is a very friendly event and for a very worthwhile cause.

THE 5p COLLECTION

The 5p collection will end on Sunday 20th April so to all those people who have 5p pieces in their purses or pockets please save them and give them to Terry Larkham in the coming weeks .

Thank you for donating Christmas stamps for The Leprosy Mission. It was a record breaking year in 2013 and £122.61p was raised by the sale of stamps and collectables. The latter include used and unused postcards, old notes and cigarette cards, medals and old matchbox collections. We posted off over 1kg of Christmas stamps from the Tab.

Christianity Explored

Christianity Explored is an informal 6-week course for people who'd like to investigate Christianity, or just brush up on the basics. Looking at Mark's gospel, it explores who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means to follow him.

- ***Perhaps you went to church when you were younger, or maybe you've never been***
- ***Perhaps you have lots of questions to ask, or perhaps you'd rather just sit and listen***
- ***You might think of yourself as a confused Christian or a convinced atheist, or somewhere in between***
- ***You might have Christian friends and always wondered what made them tick - and although you think that 'no-one can believe this stuff nowadays' you respect your friends enough to want to find out why they believe what they believe. You are open to challenge your prejudices!***

Christianity Explored is primarily for anyone who wants to investigate Christianity informally with a group of other people. Whether you have previous experience of Church, Christians and the Bible, or none at all, this course is for you. Everyone is welcome - from the most sympathetic Sunday schooler to the convinced atheist. The *Christianity Explored Course* is being put on by Dursley Tabernacle. Simon Helme, the church minister said:

'There are lots of similarities between a cappuccino and Christianity. There is a lot of froth initially – prejudices and preconceptions. But hopefully, you eventually find it's warm and soothing! These informal relaxed meetings are a great opportunity to see if the Christian faith is your cup of tea?'

We have been given the use of the Courtyard Café, (opposite Dursley Tabernacle on Parsonage St, Dursley, GL11 4BW) for six Wednesdays during Lent, starting on February 26th. People can come and buy a drink and something to eat from 7.30pm. At about 8pm there will be an introduction and an opportunity for a discussion starter in small groups, often with a chance to look at the Bible for yourself and ask any questions that you have. There is a short talk of about 15-20 minutes which will focus on the theme for the evening. After that there is open discussion both in small groups and all together.

You can say as much or as little as you like. And don't worry – you'll never be asked to sing, pray or read aloud. You don't need to know anything about the Bible either. And if you miss a week, that's OK too. And you can pull out any time you like, for any reason. The course is free (you will have to pay for your own food and drink at the café though!). We will provide you with a handbook and a copy of Mark's gospel.

Follow the link to see a video about the course

<http://www.christianityexplored.org/course>

Follow the link to the course website: <http://www.christianityexplored.org/>

For further information contact Simon Helme, Minister at Dursley Tab: Tel: 07443568242; Email: minister@dursleytab.org.uk or look on the church website: www.dursleytab.org.uk

Course outline

Week 1 Good news: What are we doing here?

Week 2 Identity: Who is Jesus?

Week 3 Sin: Why did Jesus come?

Week 4 The cross: Why did Jesus die?

Week 5 Resurrection: Why did Jesus rise?

Week 6 Grace: How can God accept us?

All on Wednesdays, 7.30 for 8pm, from Feb 26th, at the Courtyard Café, Dursley.

CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT COURSE: PARABLES AND POSSESSIONS

DETAILS OF HOUSEGROUPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE START OF LENT – THE COURSE THIS YEAR LOOKS AT MONEY, THE ECONOMY AND STEWARDSHIP.

UNITED SERVICES IN LENT AT DURSLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Week 1: Sunday Service: March 9th 6pm SIMON HELME Theme: Temptation (wealth, possessions, consumerism) Parable of the Sower Matthew 13.1-23

Week 2: Sunday Service March 16th 6pm JENNIFER MCKENZIE Theme: Betrayal where do our true values lie? Parable of the Wicked Tenants Matthew 21.33-46

Week 3: Sunday Service March 23rd 6pm DOMINIC BUCCI Theme: Forgiveness (Church of Scotland Lord's Prayer talks about forgiving debts, not sins or trespasses) Parable of the Prodigal Son and his Brother Luke 15.11-32

Week 4: Sunday Service March 30th 6pm IAN GARDINER Theme: Ridicule (trauma, prophetic voice, being disregarded) Parable of the Rich Fool, Luke 12.13-34

Week 5: Sunday Service April 6th 6pm JOHN EMMETT Theme: Sacrifice (what do others give up for us, what do we give up for others?) Parable of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin Luke 15.1-10

Week 6 Sunday Service April 13th 6pm: IAN ROBB Theme: Transformation (Christ's love active in the world, not only for ourselves but for all humankind). The Parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10.25-37

Marah Consultation

As discussed in our January Church Meeting, we have been in communication with the Marah Trust in Stroud who are looking to expand their drop-in work into Dursley. We are keen that any discussion with Marah should be a whole community issue to make sure that we make the best decisions and proceed in this matter with a united voice. We have therefore invited Paul Summersby, who works for Marah, to come and make a presentation about their proposal and to hold a consultation for all interested parties from the Tab and all the other local churches. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary on the evening of Tuesday March 25th at 7.30pm. Anyone wanting to find out more about the work of the Marah Trust before attending the meeting can check out their website at <http://www.marah.org.uk/> which includes information about their work, together with publicity about their Cardboard City event on March 7th at St Laurence Church Stroud. Anyone wanting more information before the meeting can contact Carole Allen at caroleallen28@gmail.com

Good Friday Hazel Harris is hoping to get together a Churches Together choir to sing Stainers Crucifixion in the Tab on Good Friday evening. It is some years since we last sang this work and initial enquiries seem positive. The first rehearsal will be in the Tab on Friday 14th March at 4.00pm. Please let her know if you are interested in taking part.

Tab FM...can you help?

At Elders' in February there was some discussion about the problems which arise when furniture needs to be moved around the premises. The re-ordering of the sanctuary into a multi-function space has been a huge blessing in terms of the flexibility of our worship space but this, combined with the breakdown of the lift, has created different challenges for Team Tab.

We are now appealing for able-bodied folk, regardless of age or gender, who feel able to move chairs and tables around the building to volunteer themselves for a "Furniture Movers" list which event organisers can draw upon when organising events. Jobs might include resetting the layout in the sanctuary (training about using the chair-trolley to reduce lifting can be given), or carrying the lighter chairs and tables up or down stairs.

With a sufficiently broad list of volunteers, no-one will need to feel put upon and event organisers will have a range of options for volunteers when planning Tab activities. If you feel able to volunteer to be part of **Tab FM**, please contact Carole Allen indicating available times. It will be helpful if you write the information down, either on paper or in an email, including your name, your preferred contact number and your available times from the following options: weekends daytime; weekends evening; weekdays daytime; weekdays evening; specific days/times only (please specify). Also indicate whether you are able to volunteer a regular slot or could offer only occasional duties.

Thank you in anticipation for helping us all to modulate on a more harmonious frequency!

Carole Allen caroleallen28@gmail.com

Rotas for March 2014 Please swap any duty you are unable to do and inform Liz of any changes. Many thanks.

Date	2 nd March	9 th March	16 th March	23 rd March	30 th March
Duty Elder	Shirley Welsh	Martine Carter	Rod Irvine	Ronnie Harding	Rod Irvine
Vestry Elder	David Pritchard	Ronnie Harding	Martine Carter	Rod Irvine	David Pritchard
First Reading	Brenda Peters	Terry Larkham	Will Peacocke	Carole or Dennis Allen	Matt Welsh
2nd Reading	Terry Larkham	Emma Irvine	Gill Watts	Tarina Cieciora	Malcolm Harris
Door Duty	Betty & Iain Hearn	Eric Murray Farida Barnes	Lita & Ron Heathman	Mary & Michael Weedon	Eric Murray Farida Barnes
Audio Desk	Dennis Allen	Christine Welsh	Lionel Jones	Christine Welsh	Dennis Allen
Flower Distribution	Helene Dalrymple	Shirley Welsh	Hazel Harris	Peggy Tresise	Enid Fullard
Welcome Team	Helene Dalrymple Malcolm Harris Carol Bye	Shirley & Matt Welsh Ronnie Harding	Martine Carter Hilary Green Iain Hearn	Tarina Cieriura Julia Dowle Michelle Barnes	David Pritchard Chris Purnell Peggy Tresise

Communion Preparation March 2: Caroline Staples

Communion Servers: Ronnie Harding Rod Irvine Lionel Jones Liz Swanwick