



Wot'On? At Dursley Tab

In December 2013 www.dursleytab.org.uk

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYBODY AT THE TABERNACLE

Sun 1 Dec 10.30am Advent Sunday Communion Service led by Rev Simon Helme

Theme: Christmas Praise: Zechariah's Praise. Readings: Jeremiah 33. 14-16;
Luke 1.67-80

6.15pm First Sunday: Evening Praise and Prayer – an opportunity for informal worship

Tue 3 Dec 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the church, all are welcome.

2pm Women's Guild Christmas Tea and Entertainment

Wed 4 Dec 10-1pm Family Café held in the church, helpers needed.

Fri 6 Dec 9am Fabric Panel meet to work on church premises

Sat 7 Dec 9.30-11.30am Coffee Morning hosted by Emma & the Youth Groups with cooked breakfasts, and various stalls. Cakes and other items to sell would be appreciated. Please come and support Emma and the youth of our church.

Sun 8 Dec 10.30am Family Worship led by Rev Simon Helme

Theme: Christmas Praise: Mary's Praise. Readings: Malachi 3.1-4; Luke 1.46-56

Tue 10 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.

Wed 11 Dec 10-1pm Family Café held in the church, helpers needed.

Fri 13 Dec 9am Fabric Panel meet to work on church premises

7.30-9PM GLOSTER GALLERY QUIRE WITH READINGS, POEMS AND SONGS TO WELCOME IN CHRISTMAS. ALWAYS A SPECIAL EVENT BOOKED AGAIN BY POPULAR REQUEST. LIFTS AVAILABLE SO PLEASE ASK. TICKETS £7 FROM HELENE OR ANY MEMBER OF THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE .

Sun 15 Dec 10.30am Family Worship led by Rev Simon Helme

Theme: Christmas Praise: Angel's Praise. Readings: Isaiah 12.2-6; Luke 2.8-20

Tue 17 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church, all are welcome.

7.30pm Open Door Carol Service – all welcome.

Wed 18 Dec 10-1pm Family Café held in the church, HELPERS NEEDED.

Thu 19 Dec 7pm Elders Meeting followed by Meal at San Remo's at 8pm.

Fri 20 Dec 9am Fabric Panel meet to work on church premises

Sun 22 Dec 10.30am Nativity Service led by Rev Simon Helme and Junior Church

Theme Christmas Praise. Readings: Micah 5.2-5a; Luke 2.1-7

6pm Carols by Candlelight: A traditional service of Lessons and Carols followed by seasonal refreshments.

Tue 24 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

5pm Christmas Eve Service around the Tree – a service for all ages

11.30pm Candlelight Service at the Quarry

Christmas Day 10am United Service with Dursley Methodists at the Tab, led by Rev Simon Helme

Sun 29 Dec 10.30am Family Worship led by Terry Larkham,

Theme: 'Gifts for the King' please bring items of tinned or dried food to the service which can then be donated to the Food Bank

Tue 31 Dec 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church

8.30pm onwards – TAB NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Flowers for November were kindly given by:-

3 Nov Joan Kingham 10 Nov Sally & Terry Larkham,
17 Nov Christine Pratt 24 Nov Joan Whiting

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY.

Shirley Welsh would like to thank all the kind friends who have sent her cards and best wishes and remembered her in their prayers. She has been very encouraged by their thoughtfulness and visits during her stay in hospital.

Shirley Welsh is still in hospital in Gloucester following a MRI scan in Bristol. She must be very frustrated being away from her home, family and friends at the moment and so we send her all our best wishes and hope she will be home again soon.

Charles Jukes has also been in hospital, but is now back at home again.

Carolyn Snow has also been in hospital after an emergency admission in mid-November. She is now recovering at home. Carrie and Hilary are both very grateful for all the messages and offers of support they have both received over the last few weeks from their Tab Friends.

Jan Strutt is waiting to see her Oncologist to discuss what her next treatment options will be and Oscar Cullimore is still undergoing chemotherapy treatment. We hope that both will receive some positive news in the coming weeks and we keep both of them in our thoughts and prayers.

Gus Smith, Rachel Watts and Val Smith have all had falls this month but all three are on the mend. Also on the up, is Debbie Helme who is feeling much better after a few weeks of feeling under the weather.

Lila Jones is suffering with a painful knee and is waiting for details of her operation to come through. We hope this arrives soon so that she can be up and about and pain free sooner rather than later. Peggy Tresise is also having problems with her leg and seeing a Consultant soon.

We hear Walt Stewart is waiting for an operation to fit a pacemaker and Mary Wood has had a successful operation and is grateful for all the well wishers who have been in touch.

Finally a Christmas message from Joan Kingham - "To my dear Tab Friends. Wishing you a very happy Christmas. Thank you for your prayers, concern and love over the last year. I thank God that I feel so much better. However, I still don't feel able to cope with sending all of the Christmas cards that I used to send. I know that you will think of me but I would ask that you don't send me Christmas or Birthday cards or presents as you will make me feel guilty if you do. Love to you all, Joan".

Everyone mentioned in this months "News of the Family" is in our thoughts as we get closer to Advent.

Prayer Handbook 2014

Please order from Peggy Tresise

SHARE A PRAYER AND MAKE OUR CHURCH A POWERHOUSE OF PRAYER

“The One in whom we live and move, in swaddling clothes lies bound. The Voice that cried “Let there be light”, asleep without a sound. The One who strode among the stars, and called each one by name, lies helpless in a mother’s arms and must learn to walk again”. (Graham Kendrick)

Jesus - unlike us, you were born in a stable. In your name we pray for those without homes or have seen them destroyed by weather or war.

Jesus - unlike us, you were forced to be a refugee. In your name we pray for those who are forced to leave their lands and their homes for fear of their lives.

Jesus - you came with the offer of peace. In your name may our striving for peace in the world be part of our Christmas offering to you.

Jesus - you received gifts from Wise Men. Help us to give ourselves to you, that you will make us the people you want us to be when we offer all that we are to your perfect will and purpose.

Jesus - you came as the Healer of hearts and minds and bodies. We pray for those known to us, in our Church and wider community who are living with pain in all its forms, that they may know your healing touch.

Jesus - As an angel prepared Mary to be your Mother, we pray that you will prepare our hearts and minds to receive you, the ‘true God of true God, Light of Light eternal’, that at this glad and solemn season each heart might be a manger and each home a Bethlehem. **Amen**

PRAYER TEAM

Sometimes people come to church feeling heavy laden or may be moved by words in the service. We try to provide two people each Sunday to be available for anyone to talk and pray with at the back of the church. If you feel you could contribute to this role or would like to know more, please see Simon. Training and support will be given to enable you to feel confident in this role.

Friends at Christmas at Dursley Methodist Church rooms where a warm welcome is offered on Christmas Day & Boxing Day between 11am-3.30pm.

There is no charge but please ring 543485 to let folk know you are coming if possible. Transport available tel 547080 or 543485 Please book in advance.

They are again looking for volunteers to help out on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. They need cooks, kitchen assistance, washer uppers, and drivers. Please contact Indigo on 547032 if you are able to help in any way. As in previous years, we have been asked to provide small gifts for the people who attend the event, either for men, women or children, scarves, gloves, woolly hats, socks, tights, toiletries, toothbrushes and toothpaste, chocolate, sweets, jewellery, and toys for the children. There is a possibility that some families using the foodbank may attend this year, hence the request for children's presents. They need people to wrap the presents on Christmas Eve. There will be a box in the vestibule in December for your gifts.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL if you send Christmas Cards through the church's internal mail, or decide to sign the Church Christmas Card then we invite you to make a donation in lieu of cards or stamps saved. The donations this year will go towards Christian Aids work in the Philippines, helping to rebuild that country after the devastation of the Typhoon.

JOAN KINGHAM ON SONGS OF PRAISE – DECEMBER 29TH Joan Kingham has been selected by the BBC to be interviewed in a special Songs of Praise that will be broadcast on 29th Dec. The programme will look at Christians who have been awarded Queen's Honours. The BBC will be filming Joan in the Tab on Dec 1st.

WELCOME TEAM A warm welcome is essential when you come to a church, whether you are a visitor or attend regularly. We have had a welcome team in place for several years. If you can provide a welcoming smile and handshake and feel you could be part of this team, please see Simon or Martine (890432). Old members and new friends are welcome on the team.

Opportunities for sharing faith and enquiring about the Christian faith:

Simon would be interested to know if anyone would be interested in doing an Alpha Course in the New Year or a Christianity Explored course? Look up the websites www.alpha.org or www.christianityexplored.org to see the different approaches. The Christianity Explored Course focuses on who Jesus is and what he did and what it means to follow him. It is based on Mark's gospel and takes people through the gospel. It can be done in small house groups or at larger venues. If people wanted to host a group in their own home Simon would be willing to lead the course, either Alpha or Christianity Explored.

Faith and Culture During the autumn and winter Simon has offered a series of centrally based meetings looking at the relationship of Faith and Culture.

Faith and Film – 28th Nov. The evening will consider how we can find the spiritual message in contemporary films. How can we use films to engage with issues of meaning, faith and understanding what it means to be human. We will consider films as diverse as Titanic, Spiderman, Saving Private Ryan, Godfather, Big Fish, Chocolat, Kings Speech and more.

Faith and Contemporary Music – 16th January. The evening will reflect on transcendent themes in the works of some contemporary musicians from Leonard Cohen to Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan to U2.

Faith and Art – 30th Jan

PRAYER MINISTRY Every Sunday morning there is the opportunity to receive prayer ministry at the back of the church after morning worship. Our prayer team has been trained and has been in operation now for a year and offers a confidential listening and prayer service. Many people have been helped and encouraged by having a couple of people with whom they could share concerns, burdens and issues and receive their combined counsel and prayer. If you would prefer to have a private session with some members of the prayer team just ask Simon (tel 07946402954) or Martine (890432) to arrange a visit. We have been asked to pray for healing, especially for those with serious life threatening illnesses, for the blessing of houses and for those who have been disturbed or afraid. We have also taken communion to those who needed to know the presence and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Don't be afraid to ask.

Please can members of Dursley Tabernacle who would like a lift to church, and also those members who would be able to give a lift contact Ronnie Harding who will arrange for this to take place in the near future.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP GROUPS continue please see notice board for full details.

Dursley Tab Church Family Weekend in Sheldon, Dartmoor 27th to 29th Jun2014
Back by popular request, next June we are planning to return to the Sheldon Centre. Full details in January Wot's On

SYNOD TRIP TO IONA – Sept 2014 Full details in January Wot's On

TO BUY OR TO SELL BOARD.

Do you want to buy or sell something? then look no further, place your advert on our notice board in the reception room above the cupboard where they serve drinks.

When you have sold your item you can either give all or part of the money to the Tabernacle fund for the work needed to be carried out in the very near future.

FOR SALE

A large Fridge Freezer £50
C Baker 543236
(Buyer collects)

A Full-size 'Classical' Guitar
In perfect condition
£50.00
John Palmer 542381

Bosh Dishwasher
£40 ono
H Dalrymple
549209

I WOULD LIKE TO BUY

A Metronome!
Kathryn Palmer 542381

A Ladder-wood or metal
(It does not have to be perfect)
Ron Swanwick
07855966564

A washing machine
(with a dryer if possible)
Tarina 07931 221045)

CHRISTIAN AID WALK The Christian Aid walk was from Arlingham to Purton, a lovely walk mostly along the Severn and the canal. This year Zoe Avastu, Maggie Sweeting, Aimee and I completed the walk and we were joined for the last stretch by Simon and Sam. We were grateful to churches along the way for providing refreshments and would like to thank everyone who sponsored us we raised over £270 for Christian Aid. Thank you Martine Carter.

CONNECTAT is a youth group for teenagers who are on the Autistic Spectrum or have similar special needs. We have a wide age range and have found it necessary to split into 2 groups. The under 16s meet on Thursdays from 5 to 6.30 and the over 16s meet from 6 to 7.30. We are very grateful to all helpers who have given their time, however the group numbers are steadily growing and we would be grateful to anyone who could volunteer to help at either or both of the sessions. This would probably mean helping once a month. Training will be given. Please can you pass on my details to anyone who may be interested or to the parents of any young person who may benefit from the group. Martine Carter

Dates for your diaries

Tue 3 Dec The Spirituality Network for Gloucestershire is holding an Advent Quiet Day led by Rachael Willard from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Cotswold Farm, Duntisbourne Abbots and tickets cost £10.

Thu 12 Dec at 7.30pm Cotswold Chorus Christmas concert will be held in the Tabernacle including excerpts from Handel's Messiah. Guest artistes - Junior DODS. Tickets from members or on door price £6 to include refreshment

Fri 13 Dec 7.30-9.30pm The return of The Gloucester Quire to Dursley Tabernacle by popular request, Tickets £7 (see front cover for more details)

CAN YOU HELP US?

As it gets closer to Christmas and you begin to do your online shopping, if you would consider registering with 'The Giving Machine' and going to their website BEFORE you log on to your favourite retailers and make a purchase, our Youth Centre project will benefit from free commission on your purchase and it won't cost you a penny extra. Not all retailers are registered with TGM, but most of the big ones like Amazon, EBay, John Lewis, M&S, Tesco, Sainsbury's etc. are. You can also buy tickets from The Train line through them... a quick browse of their connected retailers on the website will show you who they're linked up with. It really is easy:

- Log on to www.thegivingmachine.co.uk
- Choose Dursley Tabernacle URC as your beneficiary.
- Enter personal details and set password. (Remember to edit privacy settings in your profile and you won't get unsolicited emails).
- Save the website in your 'favourites' and log on through its pages
- Whenever possible if internet shopping.

Church Directory

In December I will be starting work on a new Church Directory for 2014. It is two years since the last one was issued so it is long overdue. Forms will be available for you to indicate what information you would like included. If there is no change to your information I will also like you to confirm that you are happy for the same information to be included. As you know we differentiate in the Directory between church members and church friends. If you are new to the Church please get your details included as you will find the Directory really useful. Directories are only issued to those who choose to be included in it. Thank you. Liz Swanwick, Church Secretary.

Rotas For December 2013 If you are unable to undertake any duty please swap and let me know. Many thanks Liz.

Duty	1 December	8 December	15 December	22 December	25Dec 10am	29 December	5 January
Duty Elder	Rod Irvine	David Pritchard	Kathryn Palmer	Hilary Green	Ronnie Harding	Hilary Green	Shirley Welsh
Vestry Elder	Hilary Green	Liz Swanwick	Lionel Jones	Martine Carter	Kathryn Palmer	Lionel Jones	David Pritchard
First Reading	Hilary Peacocke	Jayne Parsons	Malcolm Harris	Ronnie Harding	N/A	N/A	John Harris
Second Reading	Rod Irvine	Lionel Jones	Liz Swanwick	John Harris	N/A	N/A	Gordon Moir
Door Duty	Mary & Michael Weedon	Carol Bye & Ronnie Harding	Eric Murray & Farida Barns	Gloria & Mike Pritchard	Lita & Ron Heathman	Gloria & Mike Pritchard	Carol Bye & Ronnie Harding
Audio desk	Lionel Jones	Christine Welsh	Andy Spears	Christine Welsh	Rod Irvine	Andy Spears	Lionel Jones
Flower Distribution	Helene Delrymp le	Shirley Welsh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Helene Delrymp le
Flower Arranger	Kathryn Palmer	Gloria Pritchard	Peggy Tresise	Peggy Tresise	Peggy Tresise	Peggy Tresise	Ronnie Harding
Welcome Team	Kathryn & John Palmer	Helene Delrymp le Malcolm Harris Carol Bye	Shirley & Matt Welsh Ronnie Harding	Martine Carter Hilary Green Iain Hearn		Tarina Cieciora Ron Swanwick Emma Byrne	Peggy Tresise David Pritchard Chris Purnell
Prayer Team	Kathryn & John Palmer	Jackie Pritchard	Martine Carter Hilary Green	Martine Carter Hilary Green		Tarina Ciercura Emma Byrne	Peggy Tresise Elaine Jones

1st December Communion Preparation: Ronnie Harding Palmer, Terry Larkham, Shirley Welsh and David Pritchard.

Servers: Kathryn