



Wot's On At

Dursley Tabernacle URC in March 2013

www.dursleytab.org.uk

Fri 1 Mar 11am Women's World Day of Prayer at St Dominic's RC church, details inside

Sat 2 Mar 9.30am-11.30 Coffee Morning hosted by Gloria & Mike Pritchard with cooked breakfasts. (See inside for more details)

Sun 3 Mar 10.30am Third Sunday in Lent. Communion Service led by Revd John Palmer
Them: Jesus the Healer: The man who enjoyed poor health.

Readings: Psalm 130; John 5.1-15

6pm United Lent Service at Dursley Methodist Church led by Rev Ian Robb

Mon 4 Mar 7.30pm Elders Meeting in the Parsonage

Tue 5 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Wed 6 Mar 9am Parenting Course in the Community Rooms

Wed 6 Mar 10am-1pm Family Café in the church sanctuary.

Wed 6 Mar 8pm Junior Church Leaders Meeting at 26 Woodfield Rd Cam.

Thu 7 Mar 7.30pm Talking Faith: The Gospel Question – at the Old Spot

Thu 7 Mar 9pm Lent Contemplative Night Prayer in the Parsonage

Sun 10 Mar 10.30am Mothering Sunday led by Revd Simon Helme

Theme: Jesus the Healer. Reading: Isaiah 58.9b-14; Luke 13.10-17

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

Tue 12 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Wed 13 Mar 9am Parenting Course in the Community Rooms

Wed 13 Mar 10-1pm Family Cafe' in the church sanctuary.

Wed 13 Mar 7.30pm Talking Faith: The Sex Question – at the Old Spot

Thu 14 Mar 7.30pm Elders Meeting

Thu 14 Mar 9pm Lent Contemplative Night Prayer in the Parsonage

Sun 17 Mar 10.30am Family Worship led by Revd Simon Helme followed by a Special Church Meeting
Theme: Jesus the healer. Reading: Jeremiah 29.1, 4-7; Luke 17.11-19

6pm United Lent Service at Methodist Church, led by Revd Janet Bromley

Tue 19 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Tue 19 Mar 2pm Women's Guild meet in the Upper Hall, speaker Mr Ian Thomas-'The Dursley Donkey Remembered 50 years on'- with Bring and Buy.

Wed 20 Mar 9am Parenting Course in the Community Rooms

Wed 20 Mar 10am-1pm Family Café in the church sanctuary

Wed 20 Mar 7.30pm Talking Faith: The Future Question – at the Old Spot

Thu 21 Mar 12-1.30pm The Corrymeela Lunch (full details inside)

Thu 21 Mar 7.30pm Tab Church AGM in the Upper Hall

Thu 21 Mar 9pm Lent Contemplative Night Prayer in the Parsonage

Sun 24 Mar 10.30am Palm Sunday led by Rev Simon Helme

Theme: Into Jerusalem. Reading: Psalm 118.1-2,19-29 ; Mark 11.1-11

2-5pm Open House at the new manse, 7A Windsor Rd.

Tue 26 Mar 9.30am Prayer Group meet in the church.

Wed – Fri 10am-10pm Easter experience – Holy Week Prayer Stations in the church for private prayer and reflection

Maundy Thursday Communion Service at Dursley Methodist Church 7pm

Sun 31 Mar 9am Garden Of Rest Easter Rise Service

9.30am Easter Breakfast

10.30am Easter Sunday led by Rev Simon Helme

Theme: It is finished. Reading:; Mark 16.1-8; Acts 10.34-43

Jo Helme is planning on going to Nicaragua this summer with the Peace and Hope Trust. To help raise money for her trip she is open to requests for child minding. She also plans a number of fund raising activities in April and May. Details to follow.

Church Family

Margo, Mike and Jane would like to thank the many people who have expressed kind thoughts, messages, prayers, comfort and offered support during this difficult time. At the time of writing we are pleased to report that some progress has been made which we hope will continue during the coming weeks.

In the past Margaret Pengelly has spent some time in Gloucester Hospital and is now in the local Vale Hospital where she is gradually improving. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Ann Cameron-Murphy by the time this is published will have had a heart bypass operation in Bristol Heart Unit and we hope to have had good news of her progress.

Gordon Moir is due to have a knee operation in March.

How good it was to see Jan & Gray Strutt in church on Feb 17 and we continue to pray Jan will improve and gain in strength.

Glyn Gouldon is to have a stent removed and further treatment, and we remember him to in our prayers.

Jean Jukes operation has been cancelled and she waits further news.

Mary Sherratt has had a nasty attack of shingles and has been very poorly and we have missed her from our worship. We wish her a good recovery soon.

Joan Whiting has had a very painful knee, and is waiting to hear what treatment she needs.

Pip Whittard has been very poorly lately and we have missed her too.

It was good to see Hannah & Adrian Jelf in church with little Isla.

Congratulations to Tarina on her 12 mile run in aid of Cancer relief.

Our loving sympathy goes out to Betty Hearn & Dian Baldwin on the death of their brother Douglas Wainwright, and sympathy to Douglas's wife Marlene and daughters Suzanne and Jane.

Thanks to those who gave the flowers for February :-

3 Feb Mrs Betty Evans

10 Feb Sally & Terry Larkham,

17 Feb Gloria & Mike Pritchard

24 Feb Eileen Denning.

SHARE A PRAYER AND MAKE DURSLEY TAB A POWERFUL PRAYER BASE.

Pray for the Youth Centre Public Consultation. Architects plans, drawings and suggestions for redeveloping the Parsonage ground floor into the new Dursley Youth Centre have been shown to the public and we await their feedback.

Pray for the Lent House groups which started week commencing Monday 18 February and also pray for the United Services which will take place each week on Sunday evening at the Dursley Methodist Church.

Pray for the refugees fleeing from Syria across the border into Jordan. The overflow of refugees is causing problems with supplying food, water, hygienic living conditions and education facilities for the children.

“Message from The Treasurer”

“Last year was another good year financially; we had a surplus of £7k. Not quite as good as 2011, when we had a surplus of £20k.

First the General Account: For 2012 this had a total operating income of £67.2k, and our expenditure was £58.9k, leaving £7k available to be transferred into our reserves. Now the Reserves: As expected these took a bit of a battering. Our income of £6.4k was well exceeded by our expenditure of £58.9k, mainly on the Community Rooms. We had £114.2k in Reserves at the start of the year and this fell to £68.7k at the end. But we are still solvent!

Now some analysis: Giving was slightly down last year compared with 2011, and we also lost out due to a drop in room hire fees. We hope to regain some of that lost business this year now that the Community Rooms are back in service. On the plus side we didn't get hit by any major repair bills and the fund raising team did really well last year, raising over £6k.

Looking ahead: This year is likely to be tough for a number of reasons. First there is the large increase in our MOM contribution, then there is the end to the Synod funding for our Youth Worker (last payment will be in September) and energy costs are expected to rise. All of which means we need to increase our regular income if we are to meet these challenges. And did I mention the new projects?”

THE PHANTOM BIRD FEEDER

As you know, in the Summer of 2011, a bird feeding station was erected in the Garden of Rest and since that time, we have been replenishing the feeders several times a week. and are grateful for gifts of food and money we have received from our friends.

In the last few weeks, an anonymous bird lover has been topping up the feeders in addition to our efforts - for which we are enormously thankful. We would love to know who you are as you obviously love our feathered friends as much as we do - but if you wish to remain anonymous please be assured your efforts have been noted and are much appreciated. Sally and Terry Larkham

Dates for your diaries

The Minister will be away on his MA Course until 3rd March, and also 12-13th March.

Fri 1 Mar 11am Women's World Day of Prayer at St Dominics church, followed by a light lunch. The theme has been arranged by the ladies of France and the speaker will be from Gloucester Action for Refugees & Asylum seekers. All our local churches participate in the service, so please come along and support this annual event.

Sat 2 Mar 9.30am-11.30 Saturday Coffee Morning hosted by Gloria and Mike Pritchard with Cooked breakfasts. All the usual stalls,

Fri 8 Mar 7.30pm "Going Further for Fair Trade in Palestine" from the first hand experience of Palestinian producers Manal Abdallah & Odeh Qadi. At Open House, 8a Gloucester St Stroud GL5 1QG (Next to Stan Anise Café' 5 mins walk from bus/railway station. Parking in side streets nearby) Details on Mission Notice board.

Thu 7 and 14 Mar : 12.30-1.30pm at Sharpness URC. Sharpness Lent Lunches Home made soup and bread and cheese. Donations go to Christian Aid. Devotional talk on Jesus and Peter given after lunch by Revd Simon Helme. All welcome

.Sat 9 Mar 10am-4pm West Midlands Synod at Carrs Lane URC Birmingham

Sat 16 Mar 10am to 4.30pm at the new manse, 7A Windsor Rd. Marriage Enrichment Day –. Simon and Debbie are hosting a special day for couples getting married or renewing marriage vows. Please contact them for further details.

Special Church Meeting Sunday March 17th after morning worship. The meeting will be about seeking church meeting consent to planning proposals for changes to the Parsonage and Upper Hall. We need to make a general, if not binding, decision on the overall scheme of works we envisage so that there is no prolonged delay in the youth centre moving forward. The elders will meet at the start of the month to draft a proposal to bring to church members in advance of the meeting. Plans for the Parsonage and Upper Hall have been on display in the Church reception area.

Thu 21 Mar 12-1.30pm The Corrymeela Lunch with soup and sumptuous puds. Hilary is asking if anyone would like to give a sweet, if you can help with this please let her know. Be sure to come and bring your friends and support this worthy charity A donation of £4 minimum at the door.

Thu 21 Mar at 7.30pm The Church AGM will take place

Sun 24 Mar 2-5pm The Helme family invite you to an Open House at the new manse 7a Windsor Rd, Dursley, GL11 4BU. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome to come and have a look round the church's new manse.

Parenting Course – Wednesdays 9 -10 am Tab Community Rooms We are hoping to start a new parenting course on Wednesday mornings 9-10am at Dursley Tabernacle community rooms for five weeks starting on Wednesday 20th February. We hope to offer a crèche in one room while parents discuss the course in an adjacent lounge. After Easter we may offer an evening course. We will charge a notional £1 per session. Information about the course we use can be found at the following website:

<http://www.relationshipcentral.org/parenting-children-course>

Parenting Course

The course is split into five sessions:

1. Building Strong Foundations
2. Meeting our children's needs
3. Setting boundaries
4. Teaching healthy relationships
5. Our long term aim

The course is designed for those parenting children up to ten years old. Each session includes a couple of talks on DVD with the opportunity to discuss. If you are interested in coming then give Simon a ring: 542344 or 07946402954

Fellowship Groups Contact Information Most Fellowship groups will suspend their meetings during Lent to give people the opportunity to join in the ecumenical Lent Groups. Any general questions or concerns, please call Carole on 542807

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CHURCH MEMBER? To find out more speak to Simon – 542344.

Talking Faith: Lent Sessions at the Old Spot A series of honest talks and open discussions for those who have questions about the Christian faith or are just curious but don't want religion shoved down their throats. Simon Helme, Minister of Dursley Tabernacle, will be leading the sessions in his usual light hearted and lively manner. They will take place during Lent in one of his favourite venues: the Meeting Room at The Old Spot Inn.

2. The Jesus Question: Swear word or Saviour?

Thursday 28th Feb 7.30-9pm, Old Spot

Who is Jesus? Did he exist? Why is he important? What about other faiths?

3. The Gospel Question: Papa don't preach!

Thursday 7th March 7.30-9pm, Old Spot

What is the Christian message and why should we be bothered?

4. The Sex Question: Forbidden Fruit!

Wednesday 13th March 7.30-9pm, Old Spot The Bible and human sexuality; theology and thongs! Why have Christians got a hang up about sex?

5. The Future Question: It's the End of the World!

Wednesday 20th March 7.30-9pm, Old Spot Suffering and Death, Justice and Hope. **All Welcome to come and join the discussion.**

Lent Contemplative Night Prayer

Thursdays during Lent 9-9.30pm in the Parsonage.

An opportunity, at the end of the day, for quiet reflective and contemplative prayer by candlelight. For more details see Carole Allen or Simon Helme (542344)

Churches Together Lent Groups

This year the ecumenical Lent Groups will be based around the Bishop of Gloucester new book *Jesus and Peter: Growing in Friendship with God*. 'Jesus and Peter' is an exploration of discipleship and especially what it means to grow in friendship with God. It takes themes from the life of Peter and encourages us to learn what it means to be a friend of God.

Study titles include:

Chapter 1 – Follow me

Chapter 2 – A little faith

Chapter 3 – Take up your cross and follow

Chapter 4 – Servants no longer

Chapter 5 – Losing not a single one

Chapter 6 – For he was naked

Chapter 7 – Filled with the Holy Spirit

Chapter 8 – There is nothing unclean

Chapter 9 – A drowning man restored to life

Chapter 10 – You will stretch out your hands

Groups will be offered at various times and days in various parts of Cam and Dursley to encourage Christians from all the churches to mix and share together. A list of groups will soon be available. You do not need a copy of the book but it can help in your preparation and refection: *'Jesus and Peter'* by Michael Perham, published by SPCK, copyright © Michael Perham 2012. ISBN: 978-0-06754-1. eBook ISBN: 978-0-281-06755-8.

Churches Together United Lent services As usual there are United Services on every Sunday evening in Lent, at 6pm at Dursley Methodist Church. They will follow the themes of the Lent course based on the Bishop of Gloucester's book 'Jesus and Peter'. The Bishop himself, Michael Perham, will lead the first service on February 17th and will give an introduction to the course.

Feb 24th	Take up your cross	Domenic Bucci
March 3rd	Losing not a single one	Ian Robb
March 10th	Filled with the Holy Spirit	Simon Helme
March 17th	A Drowning Man Restored to Life	Janet Bromley

Dursley Tabernacle's Church Family Weekend Away

28th to 30th June 2013

Sheldon, Dartmoor

or

Dursley Tabernacle's Retreat Holiday

14th to 18th October 2013

Windermere, Cumbria.

**Contact Carol Allen for more details and booking ASAP on 01453 542807 or
caroleallen28@gmail**

March Rotas

Please swap any duty you are unable to do and inform Shirley Welsh of any changes made. Thank you.

Duty	3	10	17	24	31	7
Duty Elder	Kathryn Palmer	Carol or Dennis Allen	Lionel Jones	Kathryn Palmer	David Pritchard	Ronnie Harding
Vestry Elder	Lionel Jones	Kathryn Palmer	Shirley Welsh	Carol or Dennis Allen	Lionel Jones	Hilary Green
First Reading	Hilary Peacock	Shirley Welsh	Malcolm Harris	Hazel Harris	Lionel Jones	Tarina Cieciura
Second Reading	Gordon Moir	Eve Fellows	Matt Welsh	Gill Watts	Edna Mellerup	Michael Weeden
Door Duty	Iain Hearn Jayne Parsons	Mary and Michael Weeden	Jean and John Harris	Eric Murray Farida Barnes	Betty Hearn Ronnie Harding	Lita and Ron Heathman
Audio Desk	Dennis Allen	Lionel Jones	Christine Welsh	Gloria Pritchard	Andy Spiers	Lionel Jones
Welcome Team	Chris Purnell Carol Bye Malcolm Harris	Ronnie Harding Shirley and Matt Welsh	Iain Hearn Martine Carter Hilary Green	Kathryn and John Palmer	David Pritchard Joan Kiingham Helene' Delrymple	Chris Purnell Carol Bye Malcolm Harris
Prayer Team	Jackie Pritchard Julie Perrin	Peggy Tresise Elaine Jones	Martine Carter Hilary Green	Kathryn and John Palmer	Emma Byrne Tarina Cieciura	Jackie Pritchard Julie Perrin
Flower Arranging	Peggy Tresise	Sally Lavis	Diana Baldwin	Veronica Harding	EASTER SUNDAY- ALL ARRANGERS	
Flower Distribution	Enid Fullard	Mary Sherratt	Hilary Green	Carol Bye	Ronnie Harding	Helene' Delrymple

Communion Preparation 3 March Gloria Pritchard

Communion Servers 3 March Hilary Green, Rod Irvine, David Pritchard and Ronnie Harding.

Easter Sunday 31 March Communion Preparation Caroline Stables

Easter Sunday Servers Carol or Dennis Allen Martine Carter, Hilary Green and David Pritchard

