



Tavistock United Reformed Church

Russell Street, Tavistock PL19 8BD

Founded 1652

Loving God Encouraging Questions Welcoming All

CONTACT

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March 2016

- SUNDAY 6th** 10:00am Worship led by Mr. Mike Dennis with Holy Communion
Followed by Church AGM
- SUNDAY 13th** 10:00am Worship led by Mrs. Kit Harbottle
- SUNDAY 20th** 10:00am Worship led by Mr. Garth Sanders
- THURSDAY 24th** 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service led Mr Mike Dennis
- SUNDAY 27th** 10:00am Easter Sunday Service led by Revd. Ben Belsham with Easter Day
Communion



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 4th March; Women's World Day of Prayer Service at St Andrew's Church, Whitchurch 1.45 for 2.00pm. Service prepared by the Women of Cuba.

Theme....Receive Children, Receive Me (Children of Whitchurch School will be taking part)

Speaker...Hazel Butland (Lay Reader, Whitchurch).

Saturday 19th March; Coffee Morning in Church 10 am to 12 noon.

Tuesday 22nd March; A Quiet Day is being run by the URC South Western Synod at Point-in-View Chapel, Exmouth. Places are limited so please book asap if you are interested in attending. Details from Jill Dudley or Maureen Tulloch.

Wednesday 23rd March; in church at 7.30pm; A public meeting has been arranged by the Tavistock Peace Action Group to help us further understand the situation in Syria. Dr. Alam Saleh, Lecturer in Middle Eastern Politics at The Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Exeter will be the speaker. We are frequently fed with sound bites in the press and pictures of refugees but are not always aware of the background of the situation. This is an opportunity to hear the views of those with knowledge of the Syria and neighbouring countries. All welcome.

24th March; Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm. Hopefully the earlier start may mean that a few more may feel able to come as they will be able to get home earlier. Transport can be arranged if you ask an Elder.

Saturday 26th March; Help is needed to decorate the Church for Easter from 10am; donations of flowers and foliage would be welcomed too.

27th March; Summer Time begins – remember to move your clocks forward one hour!

Tuesday Topics.

1st March The change that changes everything – Richard Rohr continued

8th March The Radicality of God and of Biblical tradition – John Dominic Crossan

15th March Jesus, Paul and the Kingdom of God – John Dominic Crossan

22nd March The resurrection of Jesus for Contemporary Society – John Dominic Crossan

29th March Easter Week - no meeting

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Dorothy Woodyatt** as she recovers from a fall and subsequent problems, for **Marlene Horrell** , for **Janet Dashper** , for **Liz Sanders** and for **Sue Cornish** – all with their own challenges.

Thanks go to **Stella Rasdall, Pearl Pearson and Liz and Garth Sanders** for keeping the church clean whilst we had no cleaners. Thanks too to Jenny and Mike Dennis who cleaned the church carpet. Our hirers noticed that the church & hall were so much cleaner and the toilets well-stocked. Also thank you, **Stella**, for finding us new cleaners, whilst Anne was away.

We ask God to guide **our Church Secretaries, our Treasurer and all of our Elders** as they start a new year in the church calendar.

Prayer for March from **Kneelers**

Pray for the fellowship of our church, that it may be open and loving, a fellowship which heals and gives strength to its members. Thank God that his Son comes to us in food and drink and that all who listen and lack are invited to His table, a place of sharing and not of worldly privilege.

Editor's Letters

From **Mike and Jenny Dennis:-**

'Help on our journey.

At the January Church Meeting, there was discussion concerning the Tuesday evening programme which is part of the adult education of the church. The discussion and questioning is comparable to that which occurs in "house" or "home" groups in other churches.

Because more of us are finding it difficult to travel to church in the evenings, there was a proposal that we should investigate the option of an afternoon group to both fill gaps in our spiritual development and pursue topics that cannot be fully explored in worship.

A form will be placed in the vestry on which you are asked to indicate a) whether you would be interested in an afternoon group to study biblical and social themes, b) whether you would prefer to meet weekly, monthly or in short blocks of, say, 6 weeks at a time on specific themes; c) whether there are specific days on which interested people are unable to attend; and d) any other suggestions.

All are welcome to the Tuesday evenings which continue to prove very beneficial. However, do let us know what other ways may be helpful to you. Mike and Jenny'

From **Garth Sanders:-**

Advice from the USA to retired people (most of us!):

'Respect the younger generation and their opinions. They may not have the same ideals as you, but they are the future, and will take the world in their direction. Give advice, not criticism, and try to remind them of yesterday's wisdom that still applies today.'

From **Mike and Jenny Dennis:-**



Celebration of food and growing

Saturday, 5th March, 2pm to 4.30pm, Tavistock College

An invitation from Transition Tavistock, with lots of ideas to help us source our food responsibly. We're blessed by an abundance of resources supporting a vibrant local food economy, and a climate (well usually!) that supports growing our own fruit, vegetables, herbs and livestock!

The free, family-friendly, afternoon includes:

- information about a group to help new gardeners get going
- local experts Jenny Tunley-Price from Maristow Walled Gardens and the Roots to Transition team who grow food in public spaces
- feature on bees and wild flower meadows
- local producers showcasing products
- an insight to Tavistock Farmers Market;
- highlights from a study of the local food economy.

Programme www.transitiontavistock.org.uk/events/annual-celebration-of-local-food-and-growing/.

Any items for April CONTACT should be emailed to Maureen Tulloch by the 23rd March (maureen.tulloch@homecall.co.uk). Many thanks.