



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

**Tavistock U.R.C.**

Russell Street, Tavistock PL19 8BD  
Founded 1652  
Loving God,  
Encouraging Questions, Welcoming all.

# CONTACT

Interim Moderator : Revd Iain McDonald  
Church Secretaries : Mike & Jenny Dennis Tel: 01822 618142  
Administrator : Maureen Tulloch Tel: 01579 208519  
Church Payphone: Tel: 01822 612017  
Website : [www.tavistock.urc.org.uk](http://www.tavistock.urc.org.uk)

## September 2016

- SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Service led by Rev Phyllis Ball with Holy Communion
- SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Service led by Mr Garth Sanders
- SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Service led by Rev Edgar Daniels, followed by an Elders' Meeting
- SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Harvest Festival Service led by Mr Mike Dennis then Harvest Lunch



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.** Garden lunch at Maureen and Peter Tulloch's home ( Trewoodloe Barn, Callington, PL17 7NJ) at 12.30pm. Ploughman's with Pudding! Also quizzes and gentle garden games. Cost £6 per person. All are welcome. Transport can be arranged if you speak to an elder. Please put your name on the list in the vestry.

**Thursday 8th September** ( 7.30pm?)The Quakers are holding a talk by Sue Gaunt entitled "Dementia- a way forward"

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September** – 10am –meet in the church to decorate it for Harvest – any donations of flowers or greenery will be very welcome.

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September** 10am Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch in the Lower Deck. Please put your name on the list in the vestry for lunch.

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September** An Evening with C S Lewis – a compelling one man show at Tavistock Methodist Church. Doors open 7pm, start 7.45pm (Tickets should also be available from the church office and on the door, also from [bigchurchlive.com](http://bigchurchlive.com))

### Advance notice: the Tavistock Passion

Plans are in hand for the **Tavistock Passion** on Good Friday morning (14<sup>th</sup> April): an outdoor dramatic presentation in the town centre, telling the story of the trial, crucifixion and triumph of Christ – open to all to participate or watch. Revd Dr Steven Martin, Assistant Curate at St Eustachius' Church, who is leading the project, said "We need people with all sorts of skills. I am very keen that both Christians and non-Christians engage with the Tavistock Passion, because it is not simply a lofty tale for the initiated, but a universally compelling story of betrayal, revenge, tragedy and the power of the love of God to transform death into life."

While April may seem far away, practical preparations and rehearsals will start soon. If you are interested in taking part on or off "stage", do contact Steven to make sure you get further information (contact details on [www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.tavistockparishchurch.org.uk)). Even if you can't take part directly, please pray for this venture – and spread the word that something special will be happening in Tavistock next Good Friday.

### Tuesday Topics (all at 7.30pm at our church) –

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> September – no meeting

Please see last page( double sided) for information on meetings and topics from 13<sup>th</sup> September to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016.

### Church Family News

We are sorry to learn that **Janet Dashper** is leaving our church. We thank you, Janet, for all your support and loving care over the years you have been with us, and wish you all God's blessings for the future.

We hope that **Isobel Houldin** is back home from hospital and feeling much better.

### Editors letters

**Rev Phyllis Ball** has shoe boxes for anyone who wants one or two, to fill for the shoe-box appeal in the autumn

**Anne Snook** would like bric-a-brac and small items of furniture for Goose Fair day – our big fund raising event. If necessary she can arrange to collect.

**Maureen Tulloch** is setting up a log of church key holders. If she hasn't already spoken to you and you hold one or more keys, please will you tell her.

## **Prayer** (author unknown)

'Love is giving, not taking,  
mending not breaking, trusting, believing, never deceiving,  
patiently bearing and faithfully sharing  
each joy, every sorrow, today and tomorrow.'

## **Answers to prayers from Dorothy Woodyatt**

'I asked for strength ....and God gave me difficulties to make me strong.  
I asked for wisdom.....and God gave me problems to solve.  
I asked for prosperity...and God gave me brain and brawn to work.  
I asked for courage....and God gave me danger to overcome.  
I asked for love...and God gave me troubled people to help.  
I asked for favours...and God gave me opportunities.  
I received nothing I wanted...I received everything I needed!'

## **Excerpt from Ruth Whitehead 's blog on [urcsouthwestsynod.com](http://urcsouthwestsynod.com)**

'Put away sin in your life and put on compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, and above all love.

When my daughter was little I once heard her tell one of her friends "my mum never walks past a Big Issue seller without buying one, unless she already has it, and then she talks to them and explains". I burned with shame – this really wasn't true – there were times when I put my head down and hurried past like so many others.

But since that day I have at least tried to be more compassionate and kind – and when we practice that in the little things in life they become habits, and most of all, God is glorified. I've lost count of the number of Big Issue sellers who have said to me "God bless you" – he certainly has.'

## **Mission from [urc.org.uk/mission.html](http://urc.org.uk/mission.html)**

'Mission is the reason why the church exists. It is God's work, but it is work in which God is calling us to participate.

Like the disciples, God is calling us to be witnesses and to live out the good news of God's love for the sake of the world.

Many local churches have responded to this call and are giving expression to their faith in a variety of ways: in outreach in the community, supporting food banks or soup kitchens, campaigning against poverty and injustice, working with people of other faiths, taking action to tackle climate change, relating to partners in the world church, telling others about their faith, finding new ways to connect with people, and much, much more.

In these pages (on [urc.org.uk/mission](http://urc.org.uk/mission)) you will find information and resources that can help you to engage with God's mission where you are. You will find news, events, campaigns and projects, worship materials, resources, information about grants and stories from local churches. The Mission Team is on hand to help with support and advice. So do contact us, if you need us'

***Any items for October CONTACT should be emailed to Maureen Tulloch by the 28<sup>th</sup> September ([maureen.tulloch@homecall.co.uk](mailto:maureen.tulloch@homecall.co.uk)). Many thanks.***