



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
Synod website: urcsouthwest.org.uk
Church Payphone: Tel: 01822 612017
Church Website : www.tavistock.urc.org.uk

June 2017

- SUNDAY 4th Service led by Revd. Phyllis Ball with Holy Communion
- SUNDAY 11th Service led by Garth Sanders followed by a Church Meeting
- SUNDAY 18th Service led by Revd. Iain McDonald
- SUNDAY 25th Service led by Mr Mike Dennis

You've got to dance like there's nobody
watching,
Love like you'll never be hurt,
Sing like there's nobody listening,
And live like it's heaven on earth."
— William W. Purkey



Dates for your Diary

Saturday 4th June 2pm - 5pm Party in the Park , Tavistock Meadows ; see below for more details

Saturday 24th June Quiz and strawberry cream tea in the Lower Deck Hall from 2.30p.m. Cost £5

Wednesdays at 2.30, Daytime Discussion Group at 22 Chapel Lane, Horrabridge (any change of date will be announced in the notices on the preceding Sunday).

Advance Notice:- **Saturday 22nd July** “Ploughman’s and Puddings” at Peter and Maureen Tulloch’s home from 1pm. Cost £7. Lifts can be arranged. Do come!

Tuesday Topics (all at 7.30pm in our church)-

6th June Creative Transformation

The essence of human nature is to take part in the dynamic and imaginative process of creation, transforming us, our relationships, our institutions, and our world. Living the Questions II DVD

13th June No Meeting

20th June Unpunished Crimes in the Bible

Lecture followed by discussion over a cuppa! Speaker: Dr Ziony Zevit

27th June Embracing Mystery

Retaining a faith in the face of mystery Living the Questions II DVD

Church Family News:

Congratulations to **Barry Higgins**, our church member and organist/pianist, who has won the **Callington Citizen of the Year Award for 2017**, for his many involvements in the local community; taking people to hospital; clubs’ treasurer; playing at church services etc. Here he is (on the left) being presented with a congratulatory card from church members by Garth Sanders. Well done, Barry, we are proud of you!



Letters to the Editor:

From **Jenny Dennis**

“Celebrate Pentecost Sunday at the TACT ‘Party in the Park’

TACT are celebrating the church’s birthday with a “Party in the Park” in Tavistock Meadows, 2-5pm on 4th June – Pentecost Sunday.

There will be worship & praise at the bandstand, the Pentecost story presented by the “Open the Book” team and lots of craft activities, bouncy castles, “beat the goalie” football, a barbeque by the Lions Club, cream scones with jam, hot drinks, sweets & ice-creams and much, much more!! You are invited to bring your family, friends and neighbours as it is an event for all the family.”

From **Jane Lee**

Love Thy Neighbour

I am joy given wings by the laugh of a child,
I am grief in the Sudanese sand;
I am pity and hope woven into each stitch
by the Oxfam knitter's hand.

I am sympathy ready to comfort distress,
I am faith to alleviate fear;
I am justified anger at march through the streets
for sake of a cause held dear.

I am tolerance where there is discord and strife,
I am warmth for the spirit grown cold;
I am patience which tends with a gentle concern
the young, the sick and the old.

I am sorrow deep felt when my neighbour is hurt,
I am happiness when he is blessed;
I am care brought to life where the Charity-shop
seeks aid to serve the oppressed.

I am courage that fights in defence of the weak,
I am friendship for those left alone;
I am thankfulness eager to take with a smile
each little kindness shown. I am **Love**.

Jane I Lee

From **Karen Carter at urc-news.org.uk**

“On 17 September 2017, the United Reformed Church and the Congregational Federation in the UK will mark the centenary of the ordination of Constance Coltman as a Congregational minister. She was the first woman to be ordained in a mainstream British denomination – and she continued her pioneering role by remaining active in ministry as a married woman and mother. A committed pacifist and suffragist, Constance's courage showed from the start in the sacrificial ministry she shared with her husband in London's East End.

There will be two public events to mark this important centenary to which all are warmly invited: On Saturday 16 September at 1pm there will be a public lecture at the Dr Williams Library in London. Please contact Eve Parker to register your interest.

A thanksgiving service to mark the Centenary will be held on Sunday 17 September 2017 at 3pm at the American International Church in London. The preacher will be Revd Dr Susan Durber and taking part will be international guests from the wider family of the Council for World Mission. Please contact Tracey Hardingham to register your interest.”

A Special Prayer for those in Manchester affected by the bombing

Dear Lord

Be with those families who have lost a dear one;
With those hurt in the blast;
with those unable to forget the trauma,
and please help them all to forgive, to foster the feeling of ‘togetherness’
and still respect and love their neighbours. Amen

From Daily Devotions - **The Rev'd David Jenkins**

First read 1 Timothy 5. verses 1-16

“Welfare is a tricky business. Human need presses on all sides. But widowhood is no laughing matter. War creates widows every day. The widows and children of Syria still cry out in 2017. Child brides become widows overnight. There are no age restrictions. All need urgent help. Christians and Muslims alike weep at the futility.

So what is our response? Christian Aid Week rolls round again, and we walk the streets, and knock on doors, and we hear the blunt grunts: “charity begins at home!;” “I don’t give to foreigners” and so on. The western world is pulling up the drawbridge... UK first....America first.... but the widows of the world will not go away.

Two of the best known widows in the Scriptures were beautiful people: Naomi and Ruth. Their story must always be our story. They found bread in Beth-lechem (“House of Bread”). Boaz became an answer to prayer.

So do we.

Don’t forget the widows. They focus our Christ-like response. Always.

Prayer

God of Ruth, teach us friendship.

God of Naomi, help us to love and care for our families.

God of Timothy, help the Church to be wise and generous.

God of Jesus, accompany us into ministry, into compassion, into a world where the tears of widows are dried in Jesus’ way.

Amen”

From **Karen Carter** update@urc-news.org.uk

“Think. Pray. Vote. Election 2017

The recent announcement of a General Election surprised just about everyone. We now face questions as Christian disciples, not only about how we should vote, but also what we and our churches should be saying and doing during the campaign. In the weeks leading up to the election, the Joint Public Issues Team will be offering reflections and balanced analysis, seeking to support Christians and local churches as they engage with the issues, and working to keep important things on the political agenda.

Their first offering, ‘This is a time’, offers some biblical reflections on some of the key themes of this election. Further resources and analysis will be added to the General Election webpages over the coming weeks.”

Any items for July CONTACT should be emailed to Maureen Tulloch by the 27th June (maureen.tulloch@homecall.co.uk). Many thanks.