



10.30 Rev Mark Tidey



Anglican Minister for Toothill

Revd Mark Tidey

revmarkt@outlook.com

Methodist Minister for Toothill

Revd Joseph Ribiero

eboribe@yahoo.com

To receive the newsletter each Thursday by email contact David at:

Newsdh2@gmail.com

Toothill Church website:

www.toothillchurch.org.uk

Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today; for those who have difficulty hearing we have a loop system in operation. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Next Sunday 10.30 Rev Joseph Ribiero Communion Service

Important Notice for Today (Sunday)

Toothill Church Open Church Meeting will follow this morning's service. We will meet to give further consideration to the Church Committee's recommendation to accept the invitation from the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit for Toothill Church to become a Methodist Church within the Circuit solely under Methodist governance, following the dissolution of the West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership.

Sunday 28th 10.30 Rev Mark Tidey

Activities in Toothill Church

Monday 10.00 – 12.00 The Hub

Monday 14.00 - 16.00 U3A History Group 1st & 3rd Mondays

Monday 17.00 - 19.00 West Swindon Youth Club Mondays

Tuesday 10.00 – 12.00 U3A Travel Group

Wednesday 12.30 – 15.30 Welcome Space every week

Thursday 10.00 – 11.30 Toothill Tinies

Thursday 12.30 – 13.45 Bible Study in the church

Friday 10.30 – 12.00 Music Group every 2nd and 4th Friday

Friday 17.00 – 19.00 Friday Club

Every week

Next 15th January 2024

Every week term time only

Next 16th January 2024

Every Week

Every week

Every week (See Below)

Next 26th January 2024

Every week term time only

Welcome Space Wednesdays 12.30pm – 3.30pm

Toothill Church is open for anyone to come and meet and have a chat while keeping warm. There is: Free soup, bread and hot drinks available, and a selection of board games, Jigsaws, dominoes, crafts and adult colouring etc.

Christmas Services offerings to Charities.

Toothill Church

The Christmas giving (across four services) amounted to £272.95 which is a marvellous result. I have added £27.05 from our funds to make a total of £300. Split between Swindon Women's Aid and Action for Children would see them each receive £150.

St Mary's.

This year Christmas services, attended by members of the Partnership at St Marys raised over £1000 pounds for the Harbour Project and Katikamu Sembale Primary School.

With thanks

Clive.

From our treasurer - Toothill Church summary of accounts for December 2023

Receipts:

- In December our giving (received) excluding donations totalled £1,130.60
- Lettings - £324
- Donations:
Christmas charities (Action for Children and Swindon Women's Aid) - £272.95
Welcome Space - £169.20
- West Swindon Partnership transferred the balance of the Youth Outreach Fund to us - £1,091.07
- SSE [our former gas supplier] gave us a rebate ((for unknown reasons) which was the same as 25 Oct) - £379.96
- Transfers from Methodist Saver:
from General Fund to meet our annual insurance premium - £650
from Heat & Eat 2 for cash gifts in Christmas hampers - £850
- Our total receipts for December were £4,867.78

Payments:

- West Swindon Partnership standing order of £1,000 [final one for the year: £10,000 given]
- Media: Broadband monthly - £47.99
- Utilities:
Gas [Nov] - £407.65
Electricity [Nov] - £87.80
Water [Nov] - £40.87
- Methodist Insurance [annual premium] - £1,195.37
- Worship (flowers) - £25.50
- Maintenance and Equipment: paper towels - £66
- Miscellaneous: milk and coffee for Sunday morning worship - £4.85
- Giving:
Welcome Space - £110.11
Advance for Christmas hampers (Church expense) - £150
Cash gifts in Christmas hampers taken from Heat & Eat 2 fund - £850
Advance to Toothill Tinies for Christmas Party (reclaimed from Youth Outreach Fund) - £350

Filling Station [July to December collections] - £276 made up with £24 Church funds to £300
Action for Children [Christmas charity] - £136.47 made up with £13.53 Church funds to £150
Swindon Women's Aid [Christmas charity] - £136.48 made up with £13.52 Church funds to £150
- In December we made payments of £4,936.14
- As of 1st January 2024 our balance is £11,364.16 held across both of our accounts

Yours in His service

Mike

Partnership Midweek Lent Communion Services

Every Wednesday from and including Ash Wednesday (14th February) there will be a Holy Communion service for the Partnership at 11.00 – 11.45 at Toothill Church. Service will be led by Rev Trevor Day, Rev Liz Arnold and Mr David Hoar. All are welcome.

Bible Study Thursday afternoons 12.30 – 13.45

The series includes discussion, activity and colouring.

9 Blessed Are the Peacemakers - 18 Jan

10 Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted - 25 Jan

11 Blessed Are You When - 1 Feb

12 Coming Down the Mountain - 8 Feb

Dates may need to be flexed, but the objective is to complete the sessions before Lent 24.

Prayers for today

Do please let us know if you would like to add someone to the list for prayer, remembering that we must have the permission of the person for whom we are praying.

Updates about those being prayed for are welcome.

Please pray for:

Alan (Emma's brother-in-law), Diana, Eileen and her family, Emma's friend Kate Storer, Ruth's brother James Horton, Jan and Gordon, Norma, Sarah and all those you know in need of God's special love, care and healing.

Our ministers Clive, Trevor, Mark, Som and Joseph, Gerald and Bishop Lee

Our children's and worship leaders and their families across the Partnership,

Welcome Space in our churches,

Our home congregation.

Our work with children, Hazelwood Academy, young people and families in Toothill and West Swindon.

A prayer for ourselves and those for whom we pray:

Force of life and love,

You give us each the tools and skills to shape and form your kingdom.

Comforter and friend,

You stand up as we stand up for the vision you placed before us.

Bringer of new life,

Open us up to a new way of living, so we may be full to the brim with your love;

And let your vision of peace, justice and hope spill out from each one of us

Through our words and actions this and every day.

Amen

Adapted from John Cooper, URC Prayer Handbook



News From the URC

The Reform magazine team has launched a new series of the United Reformed Church podcast.

Presented by Stephen Tomkins, Editor of Reform magazine, and Ann-Marie Nye, URC Communications Officer and Digest Editor, the podcast is available on Spotify, all major podcast streaming platforms, or wherever you get your podcasts. In the first episode of the new series, we ask "Will the Church Life Review change the URC?". [Listen to and follow The United Reformed Church Podcast.](#)

For Members who are unable to get to church.

For those unable to get to church here is the link for you to worship online with words and hymns included <https://devotions.urc.org.uk/> By using the same link you may also receive daily devotions which are sent out 6.00 am each day.

Prayer from The URC

O God,

With deep concentration, - tender care – loving creativity – You loved me, formed me,
Before I came to be.

When I feel incomplete – When I feel alone – when I feel inadequate,

You are there,

Whispering:

You are fearfully and wonderfully made.

And in the future – when I will experience – unsettling and uncomfortable times,

I can know deep in my inmost being,

Your presence is an intrinsic part of me.

Amen.

Nicola Robinson URC Prayer Hand Book

Friday Morning Prayers at 9.30 via Zoom

To Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87105668938?pwd=OERYZ0FEUndjcnVpRUJxaVhrOWswUT09>

Meeting ID: 871 0566 8938 Passcode: 6pPH0J

February Services

Sunday 4th	No Service at Toothill Church - Covenant Service 10.30 at Holy Trinity Shaw led by Jonathan Pye.		
Sunday 11th	10.30	Rev Mark Tidey and Deacon Som Okonkwo	Holy Communion.
Weds 14th	11.00	Rev Captain Clive Deverell Ash Wednesday Service at Toothill Church	
Weds 14th	19.30	Rev Liz Arnold /Rev Mark Tidey Ash Wednesday Service at St Mary's	
Sunday 18th	10.30	Rev Joseph Ribeiro	
Weds 21st	11.00	Midweek Lent Communion Service	
Sunday 25th	10.30	Rev Mark Tidey	
Weds 28th	11.00	Midweek lent Communion Service	

March Services

Sunday 3rd	10.30	Mr David Hoar	
Weds 6th	11.00	Midweek Lent Communion Service	
Sunday 10th	10.30	Rev Mark Tidey	
Weds 13th	11.00	Midweek Lent Communion Service	
Sunday 17th	10.30	Rev Joseph Ribiero	Communion Service Passion Sunday
Weds 20th	11.00	Midweek Lent Communion Service	
Sunday 24th	10.30	Rev Mark Tidey	Palm Sunday
Weds 27th	11.00	Midweek lent Communion Service	
Maundy Thurs		TBA	
Good Friday		TBA	
Good Friday		Tenebrae at St Mary's TBA	
Easter Day	06.30?	Easter Day Sunrise Holy Communion Service at St Mary's TBA	
Easter Day	10.30	Rev Mark Tidey	Holy Communion

DG4J (Day-group for Jesus)

Autumn Programme Jan 24 to Apr 24

Meeting on Zoom – 10:00am to 12:00pm

1. Monday, 8th January 24 – Romans/Study 8 – Host Angela
2. Monday, 22nd January 24 – Romans/Study 9 – Host Edward
3. Monday, 5th February 24 – Romans/Study 10 – Host Pete
4. Monday, 19th February 24 – Lent 1 - Leader Angela– Venue HTS – Starts 10:30am
5. Monday, 26th February 24 – Lent 2 - Leader Pete – Venue HTS – Starts 10:30am
6. Monday, 4th March 24 – Lent 3 – Leader Mary – Venue HTS – Starts 10:30am
7. Monday, 11th March 24 – Lent 4 – Leader Edward – Venue HTS – Starts 10:30am
8. Monday, 18th March 24 – Lent 5 – Leader Angela – Venue HTS – Starts 10:30am
9. *Monday, 8th April 24 (should be 25 March 24) – Lent 6 - Leader Pete – Zoom

Ethos – ‘All’ are warmly welcome to join our meetings.

*Moved to after Easter due to clash with Easter Experience (25/3 to 27/3) at HTS

For further details contact:

Edward Glennie – edglennie@hotmail.com - 07769874146

Peter Rogers – peter.rogers5599@ntlworld.com – 07500355201

Zoom Details:

Click on link below to join meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92404636497?pwd=bFJlbFM5TFdsalppekdRV2o1QzJEZz09>

Meeting ID: 924 0463 6497

Passcode: 181042

Dial-in Number: 0330 088 5830

Notes:

The dates for meetings can also be found on Holy Trinity Shaw’s website:

<http://htschurch.org.uk/>

All meetings are on Zoom, unless otherwise specified.

Peace begins with a smile – with Jess and some dog jokes.



What did the skeleton say to the puppy?

Bonappetite

What happened when the dog went to the flea circus?

He stole the show!

What kind of dog does Dracula have?

A bloodhound!

A woman called our airline customer-service desk asking if she could take her dog on board. “Sure,” I said, “as long as you provide your own kennel.” I further explained that the kennel needed to be large enough for the dog to stand up, sit down, turn around, and roll over. The customer was flummoxed: “I’ll never be able to teach him all of that by tomorrow!”



Toothill Church Website *Toothill Church is part of the West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership. We work with members at Westlea School, Holy Trinity Shaw, and St Mary’s Lydiard Tregoze. Our members come from all denominations, or none, but we work closely with and come under the jurisdiction of four denominations: Anglican, Baptist, United Reformed Church, and Methodist.*



**West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church
Partnership
Holy Trinity + St Mary's + Toothill + Westlea**

To all Partnership Churches,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:3).

IMPORTANT NOTICE – NEW BEGINNINGS UPDATE

In recent weeks it has become clear that it will not be possible for the Church of England or Toothill Church to either purchase or rent the Toothill Church building from the Methodist Church (Toothill Church is a Methodist Foundation and the building has always belonged to the Methodist Church).

In the light of that the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit have extended an invitation to Toothill Church to become a Methodist Church, solely under Methodist governance, within the circuit. Reverend Shirlyn Toppin, Circuit Superintendent Minister, recognises the value of maintaining worship and outreach within the Toothill Community, and is keen to support its future growth.

At a recent meeting Toothill Church Committee gave prayerful consideration to the invitation. We saw continued worship, outreach and the growth of God's Kingdom in West Swindon, as top priorities going forward. Based on that the Committee made the following recommendation to the Toothill Church family following worship on Sunday December 3rd.

The Upper Thames Methodist Circuit have extended an invitation to Toothill Church to become a Methodist Church, solely under Methodist governance, within the circuit. The Church Committee recommends acceptance of the invitation. We will give formal notice of an open church meeting to be held in January, to give our full consideration to the invitation and ensure all our folk have the opportunity to be heard. The Church Committee will meet after the open meeting and issue a statement of intent. How we work with former partners will be discussed later. The Anglican ministers currently based at Toothill will still be licensed to West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze. Westlea continue to explore their options for going forward and hope to have greater clarity by their AGM next March.

Due to these developments, and further conversations with the denominations, it is possible that the Partnership could dissolve towards the end of 2024. Whenever it comes the Executive, and Clive particularly, hope that the ending will be a good one, and that is what we are praying for and working towards. Linda Nicholas and Rachel Dowling are supporting the Executive with the administration of specific tasks related to the ending of the Partnership.

The Partnership Council Meeting on January 25th at 7.30pm (venue to be confirmed) will be an open meeting. We ask all church leadership teams to be present, and invite everyone, as this will be an opportunity to be updated on the very latest developments.

Rev Captain Clive Deverell, Mark Dowling, Wendy Dukes, Neema Mariya, Chris Scarisbrick,
Rev Mark Tidey.

Partnership Executive.