



CONTACT



NEWS FROM
THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
AND SALVATION ARMY, RUSSELL STREET TAVISTOCK

U.R.C. Minister: Revd Roger E Cornish FCCA Tel: 01822 614613

Church Secretary: VACANT

Salvation Army Officers: Major Carol Lockhart Tel: 01752 563151

Captain Penny Sullivan

Church Websites: www.tavistockurc.org www.salvationarmy.org.uk/tavistock

MAY 2009

SUNDAY 3 rd	10:00am	Worship & Holy Communion - Rev Rog
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting - Captain Penny
SUNDAY 10 th	10:00am	Worship - Rev Rog
		Church Members' meeting
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting - Major Carol
SUNDAY 17 th	10:00am	Worship - Mr Jim Gay (Horrabridge)
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting - Captain Penny
SUNDAY 24 th	10:00am	Worship - Rev Rog
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting - Major Carol.
SUNDAY 31 st		PENTECOST
	10:00am	Worship - Revd Sheila Scarr (Okehampton)
	6:00pm	Salvation Army Meeting - Captain Penny



Design by Lonzo T. Kirkland

The lunch held on Palm Sunday (April 5th) raised £111.41p. Maggi from the Tavistock Children's Centre gave an interesting talk about their work - but sadly couldn't stay for lunch. However we did have as guests the Mayor of West Devon - Cllr Terry Pearce and his wife June. Thanks to our chefs Joy and Ray and all who helped in any way.



MRS EDITH BRENCHLEY (Dee)

Sadly Dee passed away at Tavistock Hospital on April 13th aged 85 years.

Her funeral service was conducted by the Revd Lilian Dean on Wednesday April 22nd at Weston Mill Crematorium.

We send our love and sympathy to her son John and his family.



The **PLYMOUTH AREA POLICE CHOIR** will be giving a concert in aid of the Roof Fund on **FRIDAY MAY 8th at 7:30pm. All tickets £5 .**

Revd Phyllis is organising **refreshments** so if you would like to offer your help, please contact her(855731).

Also if anyone has any suitable prizes for the **raffle** please let Rev Rog know(614613) **THANK YOU!**



OPERATION SUNSHINE'S
PLANT & BRIC A BRAC SALE
will be held on **SATURDAY MAY 9th**
in Whitchurch Village Hall
from 9:30am - 12:30pm.
If you have anything for sale, please
contact Margaret Philpott (610484)
or Sue Savage (853572)

If our church ceased to exist would anyone in our neighbourhood notice?

SQUARE MILE is a 4 week study course with DVD initiated by the Evangelical Alliance. Using the letters of the word MILE, we will examine the Bible's teaching on four major areas.

MERCY : showing God's compassion to the needy.

INFLUENCE : demonstrating the values of the kingdom.

LIFE DISCIPLESHIP : living for Christ in all aspects of our lives.

EVANGELISM: sharing the message of good news humbly yet faithfully.

Are you ready for your life to be changed?

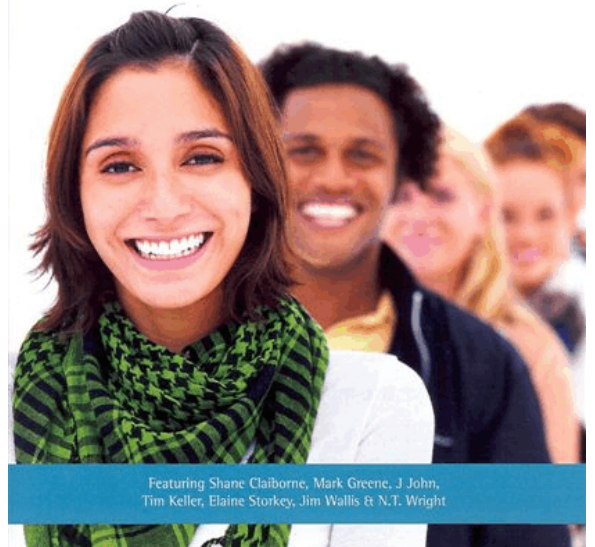
The course will be held in the Church on

TUESDAYS MAY 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th starting at 7:30pm.

ALL WELCOME!

**SQUARE
mile**

A FOUR WEEK COURSE FOR SMALL GROUPS



Featuring Shane Claiborne, Mark Greene, J. John, Tim Keller, Elaine Storkey, Jim Wallis & N.T. Wright



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

May 10th - 16th - will focus on the **Democratic Republic of Congo** whose people are caught in bitter conflict.

More than 250,000 people have fled their homes, losing family and possessions on the way. Some are trying to return home despite the dangers. Many are being given shelter and food by local families who in turn will also need our support. Christian Aid is working with four local partners to reach more than 9,000 households. They are distributing food supplies, improving local water supplies and sanitation facilities, providing seeds and tools to help people grow extra food for their families, supporting people to earn vital income and find new livelihoods, and providing mobile voluntary HIV testing and counselling. As well as in the DR Congo, there are also massive humanitarian crises in Sri Lanka, Gaza, and, of course, Zimbabwe.

The TACT service to mark **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** will be held on **Sunday May 10th** at the **Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Assumption, Tavistock** starting at **6:00pm**. **St Eustachius** are holding **2 coffee mornings for Christian Aid - Wednesday 13th May** at **11am** and **Friday 15th May** at **9:30am**.



*The **Bible Fellowship** will be held on Wednesdays May 6th and 20th.

* Col Joan is holding a **COFFEE MORNING** at BookWorm Alley ,
36 Brook Street Tavistock on Friday May 22nd from 10am - 1pm .

Admission is 50p to include Coffee.

All proceeds to the Salvation Army's work in India.



Tavistock Pannier Market



The ANNUAL CHARITY BONANZA - organised by the Friends of Tavistock Area Support Services - will be held on **SATURDAY 30th MAY from 9:00am - 4:00pm**
Setting up will be on Friday evening between 6pm and 9pm OR on Saturday morning between 8am and 9am.

The Town Council bring the following points for attention of stall holders:

Regular market traders will be present on the day. They will be mainly restricted to the outer quadrant areas while we have the inner area.

Items for sale must be of good quality so that the event does not look like a jumble sale.

Charity stalls must stay open until at least 4pm. Closing early and leaving an empty space does not look good.

This year the URC and the Salvation Army each have a set of stalls at the Market.

If you have any items that we can sell, please contact:

Rev Rog / Anne Snook for the URC stall

Major Carol/ Captain Penny for the Salvation Army stall.

Further details will be announced on Sundays nearer the time but please start looking for things now and book the date in your diary - especially if you can help serve on the day!



We have been pleased to welcome some new faces on a Sunday morning and hope they are beginning to feel at home with us.

If you would like to "officially" become a member of our congregation then please speak to Rev Rog - without obligation!

As a member, you will be able to come to the Church Members' meetings, have your say and vote!

You are welcome to come to the next members' meeting after morning service on Sunday May 10th (but you won't be able to vote!)



COMMITMENT FOR LIFE : Silveira House, Zimbabwe

Commitment for Life is a network of United Reformed Churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships committed to praying, giving and campaigning for change in 4 partner countries - Bangladesh; Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories; Jamaica and Zimbabwe.

As a Church, Tavistock URC is linked with Silveira House in Zimbabwe.



A LIFE GIVING APPRENTICESHIP

Portia is 35 years old and lives in Mutoko in Zimbabwe. She has HIV. In 2006 she became very ill - nearly dying - and spent 6 months in a clinic. She then managed to get retroviral medication which she has been taking for over two years and will have to take for the rest of her life. However she now leads a healthy life.



At first she got the medicine free but now has to pay for it

In need of a regular income, Portia has been training as a hairdresser with the Silveira House apprentice programme, supported by Commitment for Life.

In spite of the turmoil facing Zimbabwe and the inflation rate making saving impossible, Portia now has **hope** - thanks to Silveira House. Even though the medicine is expensive, it is her priority - it has to be.

Many people in Zimbabwe are frightened to tell anyone they have HIV but Portia's family and the other hairdressing apprentices have been very supportive. Portia now feels able to share her experiences with others. "When I see someone who is sick I want to

comfort them and say <Don't be afraid - once I was sick like you, now I take medicines and I am fine.> I want people to be encouraged so that they can get tested before it's too late".

Portia and the other trainee hairdressers have HIV training as part of their programme - Portia wants to do more of this work and fight the stigma surrounding HIV, as few people in Zimbabwe seek testing for fear of discrimination.

Lord of justice and wisdom, in whom we place our hope, we place before you the crisis facing the country of Zimbabwe.

We pray for immediate aid, wise leadership and an end to injustice at this critical time, as disease and extreme food shortages threaten to grip the nation.

Compassionate God, we know of your special love for the poor. We pray for relief for those who suffer, and action from those who watch their suffering.

As we stand alongside the people of Zimbabwe in prayer, we passionately oppose the social injustice and oppression affecting that nation.

We know that your love extends further than we can ever ask or imagine and pray for your protection, healing and close presence there.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen

TAVISTOCK AREA CHRISTIANS TOGETHER



Street Pastors is an inter-denominational Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue.

It was pioneered in London in January 2003 by Rev Les Isaac, Director of the Ascension Trust, and has seen some remarkable results, including drops in crime in areas where teams have been working. There are now over 100 teams around the United Kingdom - including one in Plymouth. Each city project is set up by the Ascension Trust and run by a local coordinator with support from Ascension Trust, local churches and community groups in partnership with Police, Council and other statutory agencies.

On **Thursday May 14th at 7:30pm in the Abbey Chapel** there will be a meeting open to all to discuss the idea of having STREET PASTORS in Tavistock. A presentation will be given by the Revd Stuart Clarke - the Plymouth Street Pastors coordinator - who will be able to answer queries.

The following information is from an email sent by Graham Boot-Handford to TACT Churches..

"To get Street Pastors up and running will take a lot of time and effort from a team of people.

Management Structure: Street Pastors can be run under the umbrella of Ascension Trust, or a separate Charity structure can be set up. We would need to decide how the project would be managed in either circumstance - a managing board would be required - who should be on it? Two key appointments are the Co-ordinators, one for the Street Pastors, the other for the Prayer Pastors. We need to have the right people for these posts and they need to be in place early in the process. Both require a good deal of time.

Volunteers: To cover a Friday and Saturday night in Tavistock we estimate we would need in the order of 24 volunteer Street Pastors plus 12 -24 Prayer Pastors (the teams have people praying all the time they are out). The teams usually go out in 4s, so with 6 teams they would do 17-18 shifts per year.

Training: There is a training programme and it takes around 12 sessions, some of which can be done in the evening, but several will require to be completed on a Saturday. the minimum time it would take to complete the training would be 3 months.

Funding: Each Street Pastor costs £300 to train. Registering with Ascension Trust costs £250 and then 15% of donations raised. A very rough estimate would be that it could cost £10,000." (Mr Boot-Handford is expecting the churches to pay for this!)

Other TACT events:

TAVI PRAISE will be held on Thursday May 7th 7:30pm at St Andrew's Whitchurch who will also host the Prayer Breakfast on Saturday May 16th at 8:30am and Evening Prayers on Thursday May 21st at 7:30pm.

From Sunday May 24th - Saturday May 30th there will be a week of prayer - 24 hours a day for 7 days - based at Abbey Chapel.

Week of Prayer

On Pentecost Sunday (May 31st) there will be a service in Bedford Square starting at 10:00am led by the worship band from Bere Alston United Church. The preacher will be the Revd Pamela Stranks and will include a celebration of Holy Communion.

