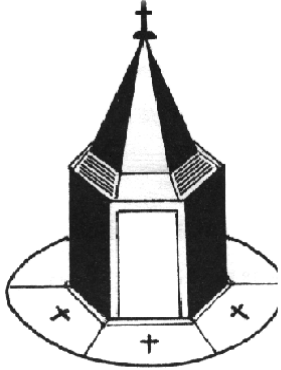


**February & March
2012**



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
AROUND
LUDLOW**



REGULAR 'CHURCHES TOGETHER' ACTIVITIES

LUNCH & FELLOWSHIP

Last Friday in each month from 12.30pm - 1.45pm in the Garden Room at the Methodist Church.

PRAYERS FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Last Monday of each month at 2 Friars Gardens from 3pm - 4pm. Please phone 875398 for further information.

TRAIDCRAFT

Goods on sale at the Ludlow Conference Centre during office hours 9am - 4.30pm Monday - Friday, at Wesley's Café 10am – 2pm Monday - Saturday, and at St Laurence's 10am - 5pm Monday - Saturday and 12.30pm - 4.30pm on Sundays (unless pm services.)

SERVICE AT FOUR RIVERS

1st Tuesday of each month at 11am. All Welcome at these services

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THESE EVENTS



Women's World Day of Prayer Service

Theme: '*Let Justice Prevail*' written by women of Malaysia at 10.30am on Friday, 2nd March at Ludlow Methodist Church (**NB change of time**) and in the Garden Room at Ludlow Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Please come and join in this interdenominational intimation service. Men and Women, young and old, all very welcome.

NOTICE BOARD

Fairtrade Fortnight

27 February—11 March Join the thousands of people up and down the UK taking action to raise awareness of Fairtrade and help others understand how a small step change here can make a huge difference to the lives of farmers and workers around the world. What steps can you take for Fairtrade?

Look out for the trail of footsteps around the town in Fairtrade Outlets. In St Laurence Church: Support the Traidcraft Stall and display throughout the fortnight. There will be footsteps to decorate and leave on display. There will be Fairtrade refreshments on Sundays 4th and 11 March after the 09.30 Eucharist. On Sunday 11 March there will also be a 'Bring and Buy Cake Stall' (Fairtrade ingredients of course) followed by a Fairtrade discussion at 11.00 hrs - in 2 College Street, to which all are welcome.

Encourage your Church, School or College to achieve Fairtrade Status if it has not already....

Visit The Traidcraft Stall at The Farmers Market on Thursday 8th March 10.00-14.00hrs . There will be food samples to taste and more about taking steps for Fairtrade. Together we hope to take about 1.5 million steps for Fairtrade in 2012. That's one for every Fairtrade Farmer and worker around the world.

For more information contact:
Penelope Bridstrup
pabridstrup@btinternet.com
01584 876992
or Liz Taylor 831149



OUTREACH SUPPER & TALK

Tuesday, April 24th at Ludlow Methodist Church 6 .00pm to 6. 30pm
Speaker: Tim Aldred (Progression) 'Just Sharing'

A presentation of some important food and water issues and how these link into questions of poverty world wide. How do we approach these issues as Christians?

Tickets £5.00 from church reps—available from March 24th



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NOTICE BOARD

From the Chair of CTAL:

'Don't do separately what you can do together'. That, I think, was the watchword of the ecumenical movement in days gone by. It may not be quite as simple as that, but it still makes a lot of Christian sense. For example, Ludlow has four care homes – soon to be five. Wouldn't it be splendid if ecumenical teams for each care home, (not just Four Rivers, although we already have a commitment to that) could lead monthly services- backed up by a few supportive singers? (A sort of care homes equivalent of Acts 2). If we all 'pitched in' together, no-one should be overloaded, and it would be a great ministry to elderly and infirm people easily marginalized or forgotten.

Another opportunity: through the work of the CTAL 'Social Audit' group, we have become aware of the growing needs in and around Ludlow. If we are serious about our Christian faith, the impact of the economic recession and of government policy will require our attention.

Will this be too big a task? For the churches on our own, yes. But there are quite a number of local agencies, charities and volunteers working with the vulnerable and needy, and CTAL - that's us! – must play its part, whilst making our own distinctive contribution.

So watch this space: please give time to CTAL meetings later this year devoted to 'Ludlow in Need', including CTAL's new look 'Quiet Day' on Saturday, October 6th: '*Ludlow in Need: a day of reflection and prayer, leading to action*'. (We envisage a local venue).

More immediately,

- Lent groups start in the week beginning February 27th.
- There will be an open meeting on March 5th at 7-30pm at Broad Street MC: '*Learning4Life: Uganda's Children*': Speaker - Vicky Leach (St Peter's): a chance to hear about Vicky's remarkable ministry amongst the street children of Kampala.
- Easter Experience: for children from local schools, March 16th, 26-28.

With warmest greetings,

Neil Richardson

Next issue: April and May 2012 Deadline: March 16th
PLEASE BE PROMPT Publication: March 25th