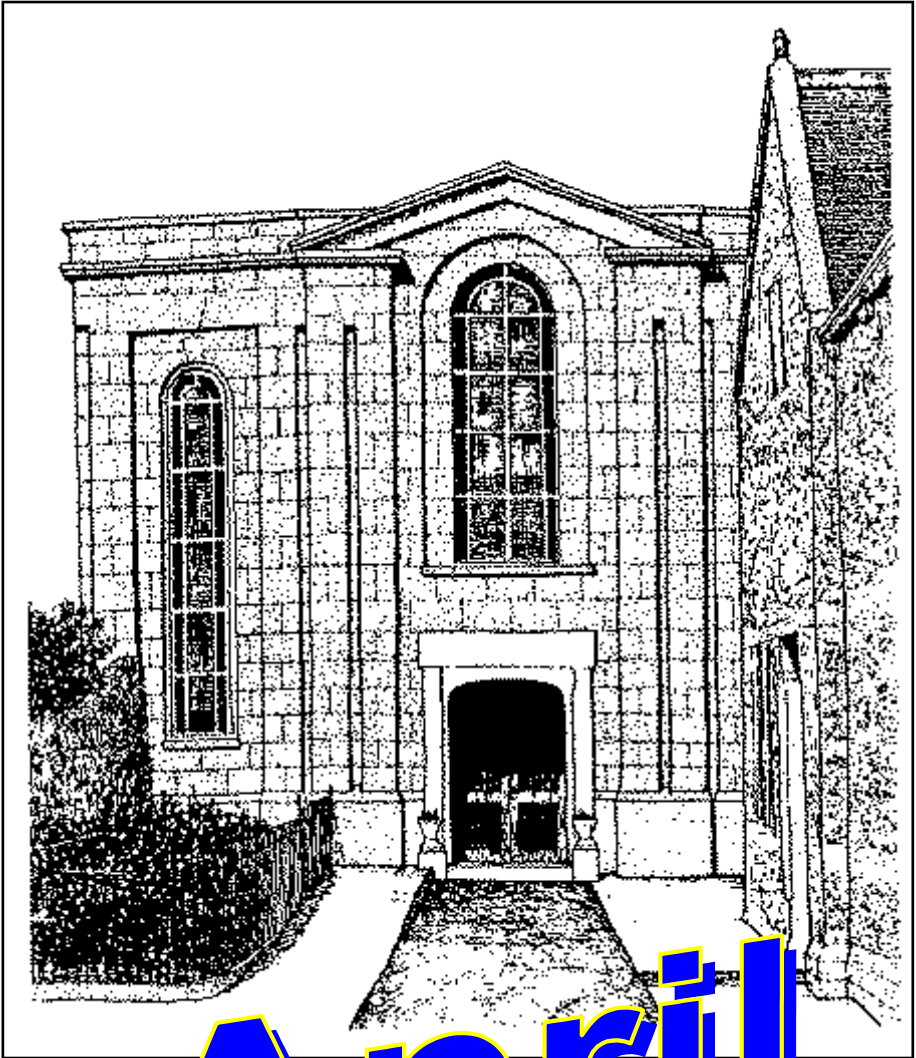


*Wincanton Baptist Church
Newsletter*



April

Pastor

Rev Crawford McIntyre
4 Rodber Close
Wincanton
Somerset
BA9 9BR
Tel: 01963 31553

Secretary

Mrs Jane Smith
'Son Blessed'
West Hill
Wincanton
Somerset
Tel: 01963 34327

Church Office: 01963 34477 (Answer phone 24 hrs)

SUNDAY SERVICES

10:30 am	Morning Service
Communion	3 rd Sunday AM PM as announced

WEEKDAY MEETINGS

All venues are announced weekly.

Ladies Group Meeting	Tuesday 10:00 am
Bible Study/Prayer	Tuesday 7:30 pm

Vision Statement

Wincanton Baptist Church aims to be a warm, accepting fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ, worshipping and serving God with a clear and relevant Bible-centred message. With the involvement of as many in the fellowship as possible, we seek to present the message of the gospel with the unchurched people in our community that they may believe in Jesus for their salvation and then grow as his disciples.

Internet URLs

Church web page	http://www.wincantonbaptist.co.uk
Church e-mail	pastor@wincantonbaptist.co.uk
Items for notices	notices@wincantonbaptist.co.uk
Items for magazine	editor@wincantonbaptist.co.uk

From the Pastor



He is not here, He is risen! Hallelujah! Amen! No empty tomb- then its an empty faith we have. The new life we experience is due to the risen life of our Lord Jesus Christ. The heroes and founders of all the other world religions are dead but our Hero and the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith lives on. The boast of the Christian faith is its unique belief in a Lord who having taken upon Himself our humanity took it with Him back to heaven. There is a Man in the glory! Jesus our Saviour.

This month we welcome six new church members and on Easter Sunday will witness Ruth's baptism. We are really encouraged and all the honour goes to our Lord Jesus. As the church grows so do the responsibilities upon the church leadership for which we would value your prayer and consideration. It means too we depend on information about those who may be ill or struggling in some way to be passed on to us as soon as possible. I always say I would rather here from three directions about someone in need than not hear at all or be the last to know. To give to one another the care and love that is so precious amongst us is good but for people to try and deal with things they cannot handle or "rush in where angels fear to tread" only exacerbates the problems.

To have young people in church is a real joy, take time to get to know the young ones to pray for and encourage them. Through all times of growth we must steer a steady course and trim the sails of our church being aware of the wind of the Holy Spirit. Boasting in what the Lord has done puts things into the right perspective.

Overcomers Outreach is a Christian based group meeting in Wincanton who seek to support recovering alcoholics and others with unhelpful dependencies. Pattie is our link with this group and she will happily tell you all you need to know about "OO" and its aims. If you know of someone who would benefit from this group please speak with Pattie. I have recently been concerned about people in our community who are not being reached by the love of Jesus through His church. Pray for the courage and the wisdom to bring such dear ones the message of hope and a future shared in the company of our Risen and Exalted Lord.

Happy Easter

Crawford

PRAYER FOCUS

Isn't our god wonderful, he is always on time.

Passover 14-15 Nissan, (the Hebrew dates for Passover), was exactly the time of the Messiah's crucifixion (Matthew 26:2, 7 & 17). Our western calendar varies this date (A moveable feast). Falling on the first full moon after 21st March. The council of Nicea legislated that Easter must be celebrated on a Sunday and that it was never to coincide with the date of the Jewish Passover.

We praise you Father, your ways are greater than ours. Forgive us for wanting to take your ideas, (far greater in understanding), and make them to suit ourselves. You sent Jesus for us, the people you created, Jew and Gentile, a sacrifice once for all.

From the Evangelical Alliance

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

* South East Asia Continue to pray for those organising the global relief effort so that aid may reach everyone; for wise decisions in the planning of rehousing in the coastal areas of Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka; for those working as counsellors with those who have survived; guidance for the UK charities in how to best use the money given.

* Lebanon and the wider Middle East Please pray for Lebanon after the assassination of former Prime Minister Hariri; that this nation will not again fall into civil war; pray also for peace moves between Israel and the Palestinian authorities, that these will bear lasting fruit.

* Iraq Pray for the people of this troubled nation that, following the recent elections, there will be a decrease in violence and that rebuilding of people's lives may start in earnest.

UK NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

* Gambling Bill Update The Gambling Bill has completed its House of Commons stages and has now moved to the House of Lords for

further scrutiny and debate. Christian groups have once again been active in briefing members of the House of Lords on our concerns over the Gambling Bill. Give thanks that the Gambling Bill entering the House of Lords is completely different from the bill that entered the House of Commons. The Government also committed itself to grant a separate planning category to casinos, as they are currently in the same planning category as swimming pools! Please pray that the government would keep its promise to reform the planning law in this area.

* Incitement Religious Hatred Bill The Serious Organised Crime and Police Bill which contains provisions to outlaw incitement to religious hatred has now moved to the House of Lords. Despite many meetings with the government there has been no change in the clauses related to Incitement to Religious Hatred. The last time these clauses were suggested in 2001 they were dropped from wider anti-terrorism legislation. Please pray that the current proposals will similarly be dropped.

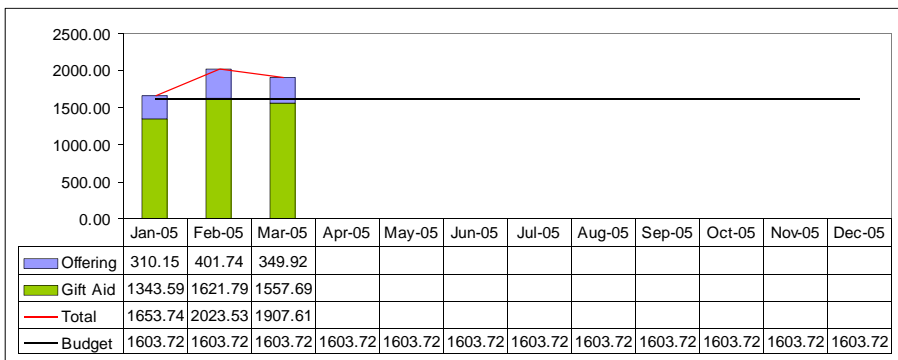
From <http://www.eauk.org>

Motto Text

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

2 Peter 3v 18

Monthly Giving



Gift Aid includes the expected tax refund.

What is Easter?

Religious Significance & Children

More than one in three youngsters in Britain fail to recognise Easter as a religious festival, while, to the vast majority, it is time for chocolate and television.

A survey of 1,000 seven to 16-year-olds found just 15% would be attending church during Easter with the number dropping to as low as nine in some parts of the country. Other results from the NOP survey - which was commissioned by Woolworth's - show that going to church is a long way down the list of ways the young celebrate Easter.

- * Less than three in 10, 28%, equate the giving of chocolate eggs with Jesus and 85% were unaware that eggs symbolise rebirth.

- * In Scotland, 66% said Easter was a religious festival, but 84% also said it was a time to eat chocolate and 86% a holiday from school.

- * 49% of youngsters in Scotland, the most of any region, said it was the start of spring.

- * The lack of knowledge about Easter is greatest in southern England with only 46% of children saying the holiday is a religious festival.

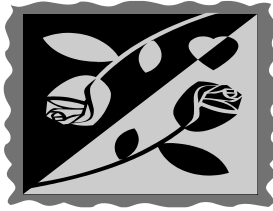
Despite declining church attendance, Easter is still seen as a time to spend with families.

Reported in the Express 18th April 2003

Chocolate & Gender

Women are responsible for two-thirds of all chocolate sales. They eat around 60% of their purchase and then share the rest. Men make 30% of purchases - but eat it all.

Source: Stats of life, Horizons, National Statistics, Issue no 27, December 2003. Quoted in Quadrant, The Christian Research Association publication, March 2004



3rd Mae Watts
6th Ellie
Worthington
24th Iain McIntyre
24th Patty Humble
24th Harry Allen
27th Mary
Worthington
29th Ruth Murphy
29th Tessa Colley
30th Caroline
Worthington

2nd Rosemary
9th Ernie
16th Ian
23rd Georgina
30th Vivienne

4th Kathryn
11th Freda
18th Nancy
25th Ernie

Cadbury Cashes In

* 2003 saw £350 million being spent on 80 million chocolate eggs.

* Only Christmas is a more gluttonous time for those with a sweet tooth, who spend more than £3.8 billion pounds on chocolate a year.

* One in two eggs consumed are made by Cadbury, representing about a tenth of its annual total chocolate sales.

* About 500 million of Cadbury's Crème Eggs, the company's best-selling Easter line, are produced each year which, if piled on top of each other, would stand 10 times higher than Mount Everest.

* Annual chocolate sales generate about a fifth of the fizzy drinks-to-chewing gum group's £5.3 million revenue.

Reported in the Daily Telegraph, 21st April 2003, by Phillip Aldrick

April 2005 Prayer Calendar

1st	Alan & Lisa Large	
2nd	Arthur & Nancy Llewellyn	
3rd	Crawford & Jenny McIntyre, Kirsty & Iain	
4th	Freda Mills	
5th	Paul & Teresa Murphy & Ruth	
6th	Barry & Kathryn Paull	
7th	Robin Hearn	
8th	Neil & Rosemary Colley, Tessa & Nicola	
9th	Kevin and Bridget Down (Linx Project)	
10th	Ella Watts & Mae	
11th	Peggy Hart	
12th	John & Jane Smith, Rachel, David & Joanna	
13th	Harry & Glenis Allen	
14th	Andy & Helen Weaver, Bethany, Rosie & Poppy	
15th	Vernon & Joyce Page	
16th	Ian & Veronica White, Philip & Barry	
17th	David & Caroline Worthington, Elle, Mary & Libby	
18th	Gavin Culmer	
19th	Bernard & Susan Wright	
20th	Vivienne Alder	
21st	Gordon & Trish Smith	
22nd	Ros & David Smith	
23rd	Ernie Bauer	
24th	Georgina Grant	
25th	Dave & Maggie Hankins	
26th	Betty Hatcher	
27th	Pattie Humble	Caroline Lewis
28th	Colin & Mavis Pearcy	
29th	Peggy Weller	
30th	Gwilyn & Honey Hitchcock & Tony	
31st	Michael & Brenna James, Alastair & Kieran	

Last date for May Magazine: 23rd April