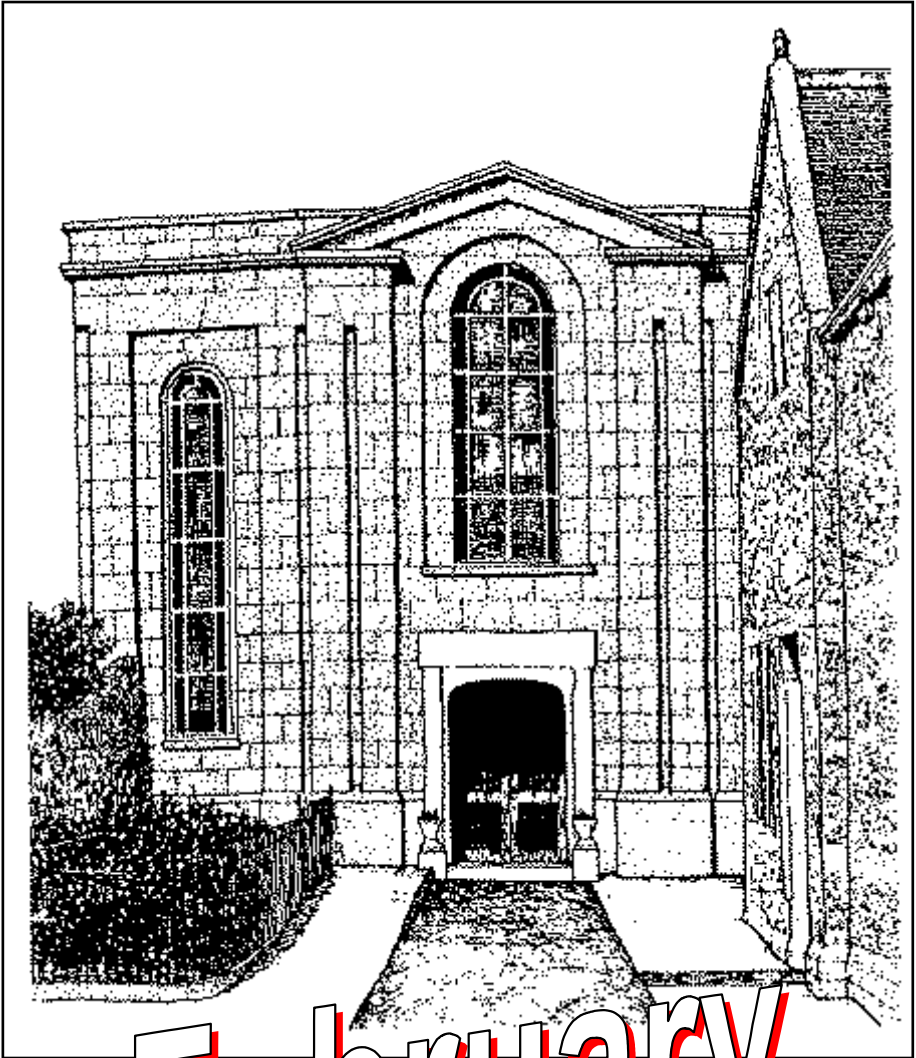


*Wincanton Baptist Church
Newsletter*



February

Pastor

Rev Crawford McIntyre
4 Rodber Close
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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

3rd 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

Dear friends



The old year went out with devastating results that no one could have possibly predicted or prepared for. Tsunami, the effect of which will be felt for years to come, was so devastating and shook the whole world. Infrastructures are needing to be rebuilt, villages, towns and cities but broken and lonely hearts will take longer to repair. How we need to keep praying and giving help. BMS are actively involved in the area through their local agencies.

Last year TEAR Fund's rural health project in Western India has enabled Surekha a young woman to use drama, song and dance to promote health and social messages. She was married to a husband who was so angry when she gave birth to a girl he stabbed her and she fled with her children to safety. Hurt and frustrated she attempted to take her life. "I was like a frog in a well that couldn't see beyond the walls. The frog thinks this is the world because it doesn't know any different" TEAR fund is making a difference for Surekha and many others like her.

Making a difference is surely what we as Christians are supposed to be about. So many believe they have nothing else to expect in this life but where they are and what they have. In fostering they speak of "breaking the cycle" by which they mean the mistakes that one generation makes after another in the same family. Some get over the wall many others stay in "the well" and only feel secure in those circumstances.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus can truly liberate people and we need to remember it can be the religious, the great and the good who are in their own well. Christ promised life that is full, not a panacea of all ills, but a fulfilled life having purpose, direction and meaning because its focus is the Source of all life Himself. To make a difference to others lives we can by life and lip point to the Only One who makes this life worthwhile and eternity a certainty. Go on make a difference to someone's life!

Warmest greetings in the Lord's Name.

Crawford

PRAYER FOCUS

Dear Lord and Father

As this new year 2005 begins - we have seen great devastation and loss of life on the Asian continent. The war in Iraq continues, still millions go homeless and hungry in the African continent. Hatred and loss of life in the Middle East.

And yet, Lord, in Your Word you tell us in Psalm 3 how you have set Your Glory above the heavens, from the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise. You see the whole picture Lord, we can only see as far as our vision allows, and we are all so short sighted.

When those around us and even ourselves have fears, help us to speak out and tell of your love and grace.

For in you Lord, all things are made new.

Amen.

CBG

Or Christian Book Group

If you enjoy reading and discussing what you have read with others, then this is for you! I have for some time wanted to be part of such a group and since coming to this church I have been struck that there are quite a few readers among us, and together with Crawford and our deacons encouraging us to look at our service in the church, I have stepped out in faith.

The idea is that we read the same book, over a period of a month or so, Journaling our thoughts as we read, so that we can come together for an evening of discussion and debate with supper. A time when we can share with others what we feel we have gained from the book or how we feel God spoke to us through the reading, or challenged us.

Easter is early this year and I propose that we start with a new book by Bridget Plass called " Challenges of the Narrow Way". The book is set out with daily readings from Ash Wednesday through to Easter Sunday, and I believe it will discipline our reading of the bible and draw us into meaningful reflection and prayer with God.

If you are interested I have books at £6.99 or you can buy them from BRF or any Christian bookshop, cover price is £7.99. Please let me know if you take up the challenge.

Proposed date for supper and discussion is

Wednesday 23rd March, 7pm at 3 Mill Rise.

Glenis 01747 840948

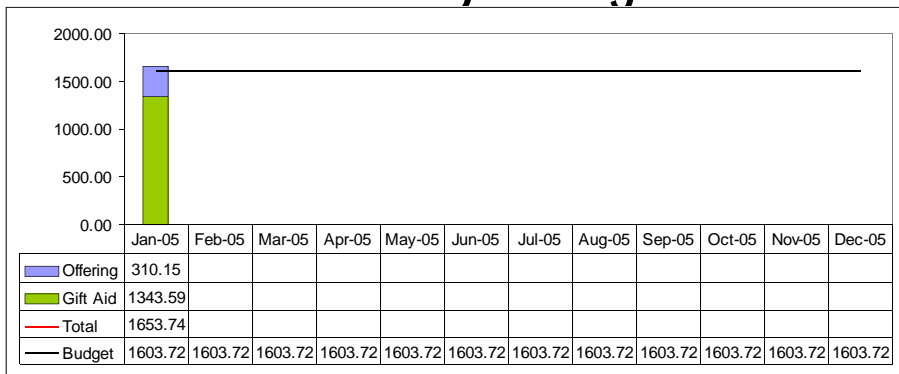


Motto Text

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.

Prayer for Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami

As the enormity of this disaster continues to impact the world, let us continue to cover the whole region in prayer over these weeks and months.

Pray for

1. Those affected

- ♥ Comfort and hope for those who have survived, who are in grief and shock through loss of loved ones
- ♥ All who mourn relatives and loved ones around the world
- ♥ Protection for the orphaned children from kidnapping and abuse
- ♥ That food, drinking water and sanitation will continue to be distributed unhampered
- ♥ That diseases such as cholera, malaria etc will be brought under control so that many more who could be harmed will be protected from illness and death
- ♥ That medical teams will have access to the supplies needed and able to reach the remotest areas and islands
- ♥ Strength for personnel identifying missing tourists

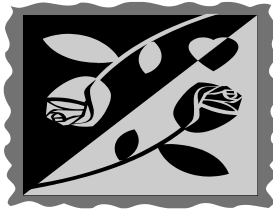
2. The organisation of aid

Give thanks for the unprecedented response in the UK and across the world.

- ♥ Wise use of the money donated to the UK's Disaster Emergency Committee
- ♥ The UN's role in the co-ordinated relief proposals
- ♥ Work on the ground by the Sri Lankan Evangelical Alliance (LEAD) and TEARFund especially in India and Sri Lanka
- ♥ Strong partnerships between nations, governments, NGOs etc to develop to allow the long term rebuilding of communities around the Indian Ocean



25th Andy Weaver



5th Vivienne
12th Jenny
19th Nancy
26th Lisa



7th Vivienne
14th Kathryn
21st Freda
28th Nancy

3. International debt relief

Gordon Brown is pushing for the freezing of international debts for the worst affected countries, which he believes would make planning the reconstruction efforts possible.

- ♥ Support for this proposal international debt relief by many nations
- ♥ Unity and honesty among the global community to enable rebuilding to begin
- ♥ Wisdom for the UK Government as president of the G8 at this time

4. That the love of God will be revealed in the midst of the devastation

- ♥ Protection for Christians who before this disaster often suffered persecution for their faith in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and southern India
- ♥ Pastors and Christian leaders who are asked to provide spiritual comfort and hope

Taken from the EA website - <http://www.eauk.org>

February 2005 Prayer Calendar

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

Last date for March Magazine: 19th February