

# PERRY BAPTIST CHURCH

## Newsletter February 2025

Roses are red, my love.  
Violets are blue.  
Sugar is sweet, my love,  
But not as sweet as you.

We are at that time of year when rhymes such as this will be seen more and more. Valentine's day. The cards are on display as people exchange gifts and greetings, seeking to express their love for each other when the word love may never cross their lips at any other time of the year. Is love really meant to be confined to one day of the year? What a sad concept to consider.

As for Valentine, who was he? No one can be really sure. There are a number of people in the Roman period of history who bore the name, some of them were martyrs for their faith. For each of them have come stories and legends that attribute to them the concept of exchanging love. One of them is said to have written letters to the daughter of his jailor expressing his love. Another was said to secretly officiate at marriage ceremonies which enabled men not to be enlisted in the army. (The Romans had this concept that soldiers were married to the army, not to any lady). As to who the real Valentine would be, we do not know. Despite the numerous stories of Valentines in the Roman era Valentine's Day did not come to be celebrated as a day of romance until about the 14th century.

With the multiple numbers of people this day is associated with, it is safe to say that there is a measure of fiction that must be involved in the history of Valentine's day. However, there is one person that brings to us all a message of love and there is one that is factual. God's love is real. God's love is lasting. "God so loved the world (including you and I) that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believed in Him would not perish but have everlasting life". (John chapter 3 verse 16)  
God's love is not restricted to one day in the year. His love is for each of us every day of the year. In this coming year may we each find ways to return that love to the one who would be with us even to the end of the age.

From your Pastor and friend,  
**Jon Magee**

## **Services and Meetings in February:**

- Sundays: Service at 10.30am with Communion on 16<sup>th</sup>  
Evening Service at 6.00 pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
& 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Tuesday mornings: Prayer Meeting at 10.00 am,  
venues as announced.
- Wednesday evenings: Home group (Bible study) at 7.30pm,  
venues as announced.
- Friday morning: Men's monthly prayer meeting at 8.00 am  
at Tony's home - first Friday of each month  
(7<sup>th</sup> February & 7<sup>th</sup> March)

If you were not in Church on Sunday and want to know the venues, please phone one of the deacons; numbers are on the back page. If you need more information please contact the Minister or Deacons. Please also phone if you need transport or help to any service or meeting

***'Drop-in' for tea/coffee*** and chat 10.00 am to 12 noon:  
Mondays 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> February. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March

***Line Dancing:*** Monday 24<sup>th</sup>, 10.00 am in Church.

### ***Church Meeting and AGM***

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2.30pm in Church  
Tony is up for re-election to the diaconate this year  
Nominations to Joyce Stammers by 23<sup>rd</sup> February

***Little Staughton Baptist Church:*** Prayer for revival at 9.30am on the first Saturday of each month.  
Coffee morning from 10.00 am – 12 noon on the first Wednesday of each month, to which we are all invited.

Prayer "Make me walk along the right paths" Ps. 119:133  
Answer "The steps of a good person are directed by the Lord"  
Ps.37:23  
Corrie ten Boom from Prayers and Promises for every day

## **Prayer Diary for February 2025**

Roads for prayer in February: Chichester Way & Ridgeway

1<sup>st</sup> Feb EBA team: David, Clare, Gale & Hayley (Secretary)

2<sup>nd</sup> Services at 10.30am & 6pm. 3<sup>rd</sup> Drop-in Coffee morning

4<sup>th</sup> Ann Burditt 5<sup>th</sup> Lara & John Campbell

6<sup>th</sup> Audrey Clarke 7<sup>th</sup> Teresa Cooper

8<sup>th</sup> Maureen & Derek Greenwood 9<sup>th</sup> Janet Gould

10<sup>th</sup> Sue Harper 11<sup>th</sup> David Hawthorne

12<sup>th</sup> Mary Hazell 13<sup>th</sup> Joyce Jones

14<sup>th</sup> Tony & Chris Kybett 15<sup>th</sup> Pearl & Brian Lanham

16<sup>h</sup> Jon & Joan Magee 17<sup>th</sup> Drop-in Coffee Morning

18<sup>th</sup> Pauline Moody 19<sup>th</sup> Neil & Nicky Pateman

20<sup>th</sup> Vicky Sandiford 21<sup>st</sup> Marjorie & Doug Smith

22<sup>nd</sup> Bob & Joyce Stammers 23<sup>rd</sup> David & Isabel Storie

24<sup>th</sup> Terry & Pauline 25<sup>th</sup> Church Meeting & AGM

26<sup>th</sup> Amanda & Paul 27<sup>th</sup> Jan & David Usher

28<sup>th</sup> Jocelyn Walden

1<sup>st</sup> March Roads for prayer: Blythe Green & Rosecroft

2<sup>nd</sup> Services at 10.30am & 6pm. 3<sup>rd</sup> Drop-in Coffee morning

4<sup>th</sup> Roger Watkins 5<sup>th</sup> Tony Whitlock

Please also pray for others in the Church and Community that are not listed in the diary above. If you would like to be added to the prayer diary or have a particular need, please see Tony.

*Next newsletter out on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025*

### **Ministry concerns**

In addition to being your Pastor, Preacher and presenter of God's word, I was called to have a vision and the initiative to find ways of reaching out to the world with the gospel and to give a good representation for Perry Baptist Church. I appreciate your prayers as I do that in ways such as the following:

Sunday's 2<sup>nd</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 6am Black Cat Radio

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 6am and 6.30am Black Cat Radio

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February Great Staughton Coffee Morning. (Please note that there is an open invitation for us all to attend)

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February Great Staughton Mens Breakfast. (Please note that there is an open invitation for all men to attend)

## **Secretary's Ponderings**

We are now well into 2025 and so far it has been a very mixed year. With a lot of illness in the Fellowship and some violent weather. Do pray for those of our Fellowship who are struggling with illness that they will soon be back to good health. We do miss people when they are absent from our meetings.

This month we look forward to our AGM. I am up for re-election and you can nominate other members for the diaconate.

However, please make sure they are willing and capable to serve on what is the executive of the Church. If you want to know more, please ask the minister or a deacon.

Then please attend the AGM to hear about the Church and plan for the future. All members I hope will attend and members of the congregation are welcome too. If you would like to become a member please speak to one of us leaders.

We hope and pray that 2025 will be a special year for God's Church here in Perry

May God Bless you all

**Tony**

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### **Church Contacts:**

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