

## PRIMLEY CHURCH - FEBRUARY 2024

Please remember those of our congregation and those known to us personally who are unwell, bereaved or struggling:

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Feb 28<sup>th</sup> - PRIMLEY - 11.45am 2<sup>nd</sup> LENT SERVICE/LUNCH

March 1<sup>st</sup> - WORLD DAY OF PRAYER prepared by the women of Palestine. Services locally in Budleigh Salterton and Colyton

March 3<sup>rd</sup> - FRIENDSHIP LUNCH

<b>ROTAS</b>					
February	4 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	March 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Elder	Maggie	Barbara	Roger	Richard	Barbara
Door Stewards	Barbara	Chrissy	Alison	Sue	Maureen
COMMUNION - Roger & Marilyn					
FEBRUARY			PREACHERS		
4 <sup>TH</sup>			Rev Dick Gray (SW Synod Treasurer)		
11 <sup>TH</sup>			John Bellamy		
18 <sup>TH</sup>			Rev Michael Diffey (1st Sunday in Lent)		
25 <sup>TH</sup>			John Bellamy (Communion)		
MARCH 3 <sup>RD</sup>			Ann Skinner		

At first glance the February church calendar looks quite sparse, which is somewhat of a reprieve after Christmas and through to Lent. However, Easter is early this year, so March will be a busy month with Good Friday being on March 29<sup>th</sup>. So, Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday Feb 14<sup>th</sup> which of course is Valentine's Day. So the reprieve has only been about 6 weeks!

I have read that when we love, we come closer to God. This year the women of Palestine have prepared the World Day of Prayer service, which is on March 1<sup>st</sup>. If ever the world needed love it is right now, and what better people to have prepared the service, but those that need love the most, right now.

Their theme is Unity in the Body of Christ from Ephesians 4 v 2 "I beg you, bear with one another in love." They have taken the Olive Tree to illustrate how some older women can feel like the trunk, still strong even after having witnessed many years of struggle, Others are like the branches, and have been cut down in their prime, too soon, because of what they believe to be right. And then finally some are like leaves, younger people taking nourishment through the branches to the roots, knowing that the tree from where they came from is strong and resilient. They can then bear with others in love, because of the love of those who have gone before, and love is what will make them flourish in the present time.

On the day, the prayers will begin in Samoa, and as the world rotates, a great Wave of Prayer will begin to build. It comes east across the Pacific ocean, through Asia, across Africa, and as day dawns in Europe, the Prayer Wave arrives. It then continues over the Atlantic, across the Americas and on back over the Pacific back to Samoa, just as the sun is setting. A 24 hour whole world Circle of Prayer. **Faith, hope and love, but the greatest of these is Love.**

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Please contact Maggie for anything you wish to be announced each month: [maggieknights@hotmail.com](mailto:maggieknights@hotmail.com), 01395 597464 or 07980 581731

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