



Minister

5-2-12

Revd Fidel Patron

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We welcome you to our services and our fellowship; please join us for refreshments after the service in the Carpenter's Arms.

If you are new to Gibraltar please fill in one of our contact detail forms to enable us to keep in touch with you.

If you are visiting please sign our visitors book and let us know if you would like to receive future issues of our Church newsletter.

Please note that some translation may be taking place near you.

- **Prayer times this week** I will try and be in the prayer room on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:00pm and Friday at 6:00pm as well as on Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00am
'When we work, we work, but when we pray, God works'.
- We meet again **tonight at 7:00pm** when our Youth will be leading us in Worship and activities and I would encourage you all to join us.
- **Imit8** youth group will meet on Friday at 7:30pm in the Carpenter's Arms.
- The **Ladies' prayer and study group** will meet this coming Tuesday in the Carpenter's Arms at 5:30pm
- The **Carpenter's Arms** is now open Monday to Friday. All help will be greatly appreciated; we particularly need people who are able to come in between 9:30 and 11:30.
- We continue to highlight the importance of **House Groups**. It is essential for everyone to be part of a House group to ensure the development and growth of their Christian walk.
- On Saturday the 18th February there will be **Punto de Encuentro** meet at 'El Pinar del Rey'. This was started a few months ago by Julian and Patricia Byrne and involves Christians from different churches, from here to Chiclana, meeting for a time of fun and fellowship, all are welcome.
- We will soon once again be preparing the **rotas for the next quarter**. We need to hear about availability from every one involved on Sundays. Preachers please let Fidel know, ushers and hosts, let Wayne know, worship leaders, musicians and sound / computer operators let Ian know and Open Arms / Coffee providers let John Byrne know **as soon as possible this week**.

- The **Street Pastors in Gibraltar** started training in mid January and will continue most Saturdays at 10:00am until the end of March. If anyone still wants to join they will have an opportunity in the future to catch up on the sessions they have missed. The commissioning service for the 'Street Pastors' will take place on Friday 30th March. The Rev Les Isaac, the founder of the 'Street Pastors' will be in Gibraltar for the occasion.
- We need more volunteers to take their place on the **Open Arms and Coffee Rotas**. Ideally we should have enough volunteers so anyone's turn only comes round about twice a quarter. Please see John Byrne if you think you can get involved in this.
- Due to the change of Bank Holiday dates in 2012, as a result of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee the **Church Weekend in Antequera** will have to be moved. We have negotiated a swap with the group that has Antequera booked for the new Bank Holiday weekend dates (1-4th June). This means that our weekend will now be 1st to 4th June. 5th June is also a Bank Holiday, Diamond Jubilee, so we will be offering anyone who wants to stay on for an extra day, and just enjoy the camp and the pool etc, the possibility of doing so for a small charge. We will post more details about this nearer the date.
- We remind you that the church is involved in a project with **Compassion UK** sponsoring children in church run projects in Kenya. Fenella Gonzalez has now taken on the role of co-ordinating this and we would ask anyone with any questions to get in touch with her. If you are still not involved in this and would like to sponsor a child please let her know and she will obtain some more profiles, it currently costs £21 a month to sponsor a child and it is a small price to pay to ensure that these children get a good start in life.
- We welcome any comments anyone would like to make about our services, or any aspect of Church life, please feel free to speak to the Minister or one of the Core Team Leaders.
- If you have any information of someone who is needing a visit we would ask that you call the Minister on 20040870 or 58137000, or email at minister@methodist.org.gi We will endeavour, where possible to communicate any needs among the congregation so we can all pray together, and arrange to organise the necessary visits.
- While every effort is made to provide accurate information it is inevitable that some changes will occur. We will always endeavour to advise when this happens and we will try and keep the information on the web page as accurate as possible.

Notices for the week commencing 5th February – 5th Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 5th February Ushers: W Warwick / S Olivero / G Juetting
10:15am Pre-service prayer meeting
11:00am Morning Worship with Testimony and Ministry Rev Fidel Patron
Computer Ms D Vella **Music** Mrs Sandra Warwick
Coffee Mr & Mrs Keating **Sound Desk** Mr Ian Gonzalez
11:45am Morning Worship at Soto Grande Rev Sylvia Burgoyne
1:30pm **Open Arms** Mrs Patron & Ms Warwick
7:00pm Youth Service
Computer Ms D Vella **Music** Mr Ian Gonzalez

Monday 6th February

7:00pm Prayer time

Tuesday 7th February

7:00am Prayer time

5:30pm Ladies Prayer and study group

7:00pm Prayer time

Wednesday 8th February

7:00pm Prayer time

Thursday 9th February

7:00am Prayer time

7:00pm Prayer time

Friday 10th February

6:00pm Prayer time

7:30pm Imit8 Youth Group

Saturday 11th February

10:00am Street Pastors Training

Notices for the week commencing 12th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

Sunday 12th February Ushers: D Russell / Y Wingar / J Rhodes
10:15am Pre-service prayer meeting
11:00am Morning Worship with Communion and Testimony Rev Fidel Patron
Computer Miss A Licudi **Music** Mr Richard Baker
Coffee Mr & Mrs Baker **Sound Desk** Mr Nathan Russell
1:30pm **Open Arms** Mr & Mrs Bates
7:00pm Evening Worship Mrs Yvonne Wingar
Computer Miss A Licudi **Music** Mrs Sandra Warwick

Monday 13th February

7:00pm Prayer time

Tuesday 14th February

7:00am Prayer time

5:30pm Ladies Prayer and study group

7:00pm Prayer time

Wednesday 15th February

7:00pm Prayer time

Thursday 16th February

7:00am Prayer time

7:00pm Prayer time

Friday 17th February

6:00pm Prayer time

7:30pm Imit8 Youth Group

Saturday 18th February

12:00pm Punto de Encuentro – Pinar del Rey

Sunday 5th February – 5th Sunday of Epiphany Bible Translations (Continued)

Following on from last week's thoughts, I often wonder what our lives say about the God we believe in.

In his second letter to the Corinthians Paul wrote "And He did rescue us from mortal danger, and He will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in Him, and He will continue to rescue us." (2 Corinthians 1:10 NLT) Sometimes things don't go the way we would want them to and, as a consequence, our priorities get out of line, things which are not important take on the appearance of great importance. Do our priorities really reflect that trust in God which Paul encourages?

In his letter to the Romans we read "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them." (Romans 8:28 NLT) When things go wrong it is easy to get despondent, even to lose faith. Do our lives reflect that conviction, not just that God is in control but that He is in control of our particular circumstances, and has our best interests at heart?

How we react to life will reflect what we believe. Our fears reveal where we do not trust God. Our circumstances can not change God's character. Nothing that we go through can separate us from His love.

When we go through hard times or circumstances we need to learn to focus more on God. We know that it is possible to focus a camera on an object to the extent of making the background go out of focus. We need to learn to so fine tune our focus on God that the many distractions which life places in our way pale into obscurity.

When and if we achieve this fine tuning our lives will really reflect that faith and trust which we are called to, and begin to reflect His glory to the world.



"It's either an appeal to youth culture
or the heating's playing up again"