

### **Tuesday 25th**

Pray to God about how much money you should be contributing to the work of the gospel in all its guises. See piece at end of this paper.

### **Wednesday 26th**

The weekly communion service held on Wednesday mornings is not a crowd puller, but for those who attend and lead it is an important interval in a hectic world to reflect on Jesus. Please pray for those who use this opportunity.

### **Thursday 27th**

Spare a thought for those members who would love to go to a small group, but cannot because of age, sickness, being house-bound, domestic commitments, work or any other reason.

### **Friday 28th**

Cardiff Street Pastors go out on familiar streets on weekend evenings to show the love of Christ to often drunk and dysfunctional people. Pray for great love and grace for those who volunteer for such a ministry.

BMS\* Baptist Mission Society

KISC\* Kathmandu International Study Centre

Contributions for the prayer diary should be sent to [john.stansfield5@btinternet.com](mailto:john.stansfield5@btinternet.com) or left in the pigeonhole in the foyer by 7<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### **THOUGHT OF THE MONTH**

'Love of money is the root of all evil', (1Tim 6:10), 'Money makes the world go around', 'A fool and his money are soon parted'. These are just some of the common sayings about money. With every one saying how tight money has become lately, there still seems to be plenty for the rich to spend on luxuries while the poor starve. Money is a subject which raises much passion in those who have it and much longing for those who do not. The Bible has much to say about attitudes towards money, both in the Old and New Testaments. The standard in the Old Testament was the tithe, and in the New Testament Jesus confirmed much the same teaching.

In recent years Tabs has enjoyed something of a blessing in financial terms, having balanced or surplus budgets at the end of each year. In 2014 the forecast is for a balanced budget with cuts to many areas of spending. When praying this month give thanks to God for the full provision in the past, and ask for guidance about what each person should do in regard to contributing in the future. Ask God to give the church a clear vision of the enterprises which He wants to undertake, so the finance for those activities will be forthcoming.

# tabernacle : penarth

purpose : to reflect God's love in  
our church, community and world

## prayer diary : february 2014

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Many of you will have heard the story of Corrie Ten Boom when she was in a German concentration camp. She was urging the women in her cell block to give thanks to God in all circumstances when one of the other women said, "Are you saying we should even give thanks for these lice? That's ridiculous!" Corrie replied that we should give thanks in ALL circumstances. Many years later when talking to one of the people who had been a guard for her cell block, she asked why the guards had never raided the billet even though they knew there were illegal prayer meetings going on there. The guard replied, "Because we didn't want to catch your lice!" Even in the most terrible circumstances we can find that there are reasons to give thanks if we believe God is in control. We are not necessarily giving thanks FOR the circumstances but seeking to worship God IN the difficult times. Whether life is easy or difficult at the moment we all have much to give thanks for.

**Pastor Roger**

### **Saturday 1st**

Please pray for the outreach among women in and outside the church. Pray for a woman you know who needs to meet Jesus today.

### **Sunday 2nd (4th Sunday after Epiphany)**

In the third month of winter, thoughts start to turn to hopes of spring, sunny, dry days, holidays and new growth. Please pray for any new Christians you may know, those that were baptised recently or new church members.

### **Monday 3rd**

Remember the local Gideons who are delivering scripture portions and New Testaments to Year 7 pupils in local schools in February.

### **Tuesday 4th**

In many Christian Unions in academic institutions, colleges and universities, there will be new executives taking over this month. Pray for fresh ideas and enthusiasm for young people in positions of leadership, often for the first time in their lives

### **Wednesday 5th**

Today the Leadership Council will meet, please pray for them as they meet to consider the business of the church.

### **Thursday 6th**

Uphold the Playgroup which meets every morning in Tabs. Ask God to bless this ministry to Mums and young people.

### **Friday 7th**

Please pray for those leaders and young people engaged in Tab's Friday night clubs for school aged children, Xtreme, Beyond Xtreme and After Nine.

### **Saturday 8th**

Please pray for the Anglican parishes and churches in Penarth, Sully and Dinas Powys. Ask God to bless their outreach, ministry and fellowship

### **Sunday 9th (5th Sunday after Epiphany)**

As wars drag on in Afghanistan and Syria and conflicts rage in other places, ask God to bring peace to these trouble spots round the world.

### **Monday 10th**

The maintenance team meet on Mondays and Fridays. They need new recruits and encouragement. Please pray for them as they keep Tabs functioning in a physical way.

### **Tuesday 11th**

Please pray for the Wales Assembly Government, the First Minister, AMs and all who exercise power in Wales.

### **Wednesday 12th**

Please remember the work of Home Access who seek to help the homeless and misfortunate people who find themselves with nowhere to live. Please pray for Jan Booker and Claire Grafton as they deal on a day to day basis with folk in need. Please also remember those volunteers who support the cause and without which there would be no long term project.

### **Thursday 13th**

Please pray for the Small Groups and Alpha Course which will be running during the spring term. Ask God to use opportunities to witness to and encourage people. Ask God to bless the leaders.

### **Friday 14th (St Valentine)**

Today please pray for young people at school and college trying to live by the standards of behaviour found in scripture. Ask God to bless those who refuse to bow to the world's way in ethical and moral decisions which affect relationships between boys and girls.

### **Saturday 15th**

As the itinerant preachers supported by Tabs prepare to go out tomorrow to lead worship in small churches around the district, ask God to bless their efforts and the churches where they minister.

### **Sunday 16th (6th Sunday after Epiphany)**

Praying for mission in faraway places may not seem, to the rational person, to be a sane thing to do. Ask any missionary what difference prayer makes and they will tell you it is vital to cover every aspect of ministry in prayer.

Today please uphold the work of BMS\* in Nepal. Pray for Helen and Angus and their family at KISC\*.

### **Monday 17th**

Please remember members of the Pastoral Care Scheme who minister to those people unable to get to services. The team visit, keep in touch, regularly write to elderly and housebound members and serve communion to those who are sick. Please pray for discernment in this ministry.

### **Tuesday 18th**

Today will be a normal working day for most people, for some it will be the end of life, for someone else a day spent in hospital. In all these situations people need God to guide them. Ask God to guide someone you know today.

### **Wednesday 19th**

The Central African Republic has been in the news recently for all the wrong reasons. Ask God to bring peace, stable, democratic government and hope to this and some of the other "basket case countries" in Africa.

### **Thursday 20th**

The persecuted church of whatever complexion needs to be prayed for often. Imagine if your family kicked you out for being Jesus' friend. How would you get on for work, somewhere to live, ongoing money worries etc? That is the reality of being persecuted. Please pray for Jesus' friends who suffer for His name.

### **Friday 21st**

Please pray for someone only you can know about today. Ask God to bless them in whatever way is appropriate.

### **Saturday 22nd**

Today you could pray for someone who you have never prayed for before. Think of a neighbour, person at work, college or school. The chances are you can quickly think of an individual or family you have yet to pray for, their welfare, spiritual growth and walk towards God.

### **Sunday 23rd (7th Sunday after Epiphany)**

Please pray for the sick at this time. Thank God for those who have been healed and bring intercession for those who are now sick. A suitable list can be found in the weekly newsletter.

### **Monday 24th**

Spare a thought for the unemployed, the unemployable and all those people trapped on benefits. Ask God to sustain their hope and provide long term solutions to their needs.