



**Our Mission Statement is:  
"Seeking God's Heart, serving the Community"**



**A warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning.  
Refreshments will be served after the service when we can continue our fellowship**

Today is the baptism of Jim Etchells and Neil Price. Jez will be leading the service which will include our annual Covenant.

**CHURCH ADDRESS:**  
Old Torquay Road  
Paignton, Devon  
TQ3 2RB

**CHURCH OFFICE**  
Weekdays 10am to 1pm  
Tel: 01803-522541

[office@prestonbaptistchurch.com](mailto:office@prestonbaptistchurch.com)

[www.prestonbaptistchurch.com](http://www.prestonbaptistchurch.com)

**PRE-SCHOOL**  
8:00am – 3.30pm weekdays  
Tel: 01803-520712

**THE GARDEN CAFE**  
Wednesday mornings only

**MINISTRY TEAM**  
Revd Jez Brown (Senior Minister)  
Tel: 07909 338138

Revd Tricia Barrett (Associate Minister)  
Tel: 07714710455

**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
Mrs Anne Brown

**CHURCH TREASURER**  
Mr Ian Barrett

**DEACONS**  
Mrs Terena Cottell, Mrs Susan Gibbons,  
Mr Colin Heath, Mrs Daphne Lockett,

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**TUESDAY**

*10.30am Prayer Group – Family Room  
2pm Housegroup – Richard - Church  
7.30pm Church Meeting - Church*

**WEDNESDAY**

*Garden Café  
10.30am Housegroup – Isabel – Family Room*

**THURSDAY**

*2.30pm Ladies Fellowship – Main Hall*

**NEXT SUNDAY**

*Jez will be leading and preaching at our  
Morning Worship*

\*\*\*\*\* Future Dates \*\*\*\*\*

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

*3-5pm Kevin Foster MP Surgery – Family Room*

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

*4-6pm Messy Church*

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

*3.45pm Church Leader's Meeting - Manse*

## CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

We would be grateful that anything for inclusion in the notice sheet is handed in or e-mailed to the Office by 12 noon on Friday. Thank you

## BMS BIRTHDAYS

11<sup>TH</sup> Mrs Nora Andrews

18<sup>th</sup> Mr Brian Slade

## FLOWERS

The flowers this week have been donated by Madeleine and David Drew to celebrate their daughter Naomi's birthday

## HOUSE GROUPS

If you would like to know more or join a church housegroup please have a word with...

**Richard & Debra Barton 01803 540170**

Alternate Tuesdays 2pm – Church

**Isabel Burgess – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays 10.30am**  
–Family Room 01803 668995.

**Steve & Christine Chant**

1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 7.30pm

30 Fortescue Road, Preston 01803 529606.

**Audrey White**

Alternate Wednesdays 7.30pm

41 Sandringham Drive, Preston

01803 524217

House groups offer a good opportunity to look more in depth into our Christian faith and to enjoy friendship with each other in a warm and friendly atmosphere. See you there!

## MONTHLY OFFERING

The total monthly offerings for December (5 Sundays) were £3790.11. We thank the Lord for his faithfulness to us and for all who give so generously in support of His work here. If you would like to make your giving stretch further and you are a UK taxpayer, please speak to Ian for more information about Gift Aid.

## GIVING TO THE CHURCH

Would you like to give regularly to the Lord's work here by standing order? Our bank details are:

**Payee: Preston Baptist Church**

**Our Bank: CAF Bank Ltd**

**Sort code: 40-52-40**

**Account number: 00004856**

Standing order forms and Gift Aid forms are available from Ian Barrett.

## FAMILY/PASTORAL NEWS

Today we're celebrating our Covenant Service; an opportunity at the start of 2018 to re-commit our lives to serving Christ together in the life of our church. Not only that but we are also celebrating two baptisms. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

Could we invite you to join with us in praying for our church this week as we offer our lives afresh. These are exciting days, let's pray for a deeper and more consistent commitment in our serving, for heartfelt love and praise in our worship, and for honesty and integrity in our life as God's people together. Please also pray for Jim Etchells and Neil Price following their baptism this morning, that they would know God's protection over them today and in all the coming days, and that they would walk in all the fullness of life that Jesus promises those who acknowledge him.

Our prayers are also needed this week for Sybil who is quite poorly and breathless at the moment. Her granddaughter, Rae, is improving and is now recovering from Pneumonia at home.

For Rita Cripps, please pray that her transition from Torbay to Plymouth hospital will be handled sensitively and smoothly.

For Christine and Tom Harris.

For all those who can't get to church any longer and for those caring for them.

Let's also remember to thank God for his love and healing for those who are recovering well from surgery or illness.

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS

During 2017 we had several special appeals and we raised the following amounts:

For Yemen - £150.15

For Operation Agri - £253.50 (Harvest Appeal)

For Myanmar - £70.67

For Spurgeons Child Care - £236.38 (Christmas Offering)

For Hope Home, 'Wonderfully Made' appeal - £296.66 (Church family Christmas Card)

Thank you for every penny and for generous hearts.

## THE HIDING PLACE

St Matthias Church are sponsoring the production of The Hiding Place (the story of Corrie Ten Boom) put on by the Oddments Theatre. Details are as follows: -

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Venue: The Little Theatre, St Mark's Road, Torquay

Time: 7.30pm

Tickets: £10 Adults, £5 for students available from St Matthias Church Office or book online at: [www.oddments-theatre.co.uk](http://www.oddments-theatre.co.uk)

This is a powerful performance showing how God's love can overcome hatred and evil and will be an inspiration to us all. For further details, please see the poster on the noticeboard or pick up a flyer from the entrance table.

|

## Covenanting Together before the Lord

(Drawn from the Baptist Union 'Covenant 2000' and the Methodist Covenant Prayer)

Creating and redeeming God,  
we give you thanks and praise.  
Your covenant of grace  
was made for our salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We come this day  
to covenant with you  
And with each other as your disciples:  
To watch over each other  
and to walk together before you  
in ways known and still to be made known.

I am no longer my own but yours.  
Put me to what you will,  
rank me with whom you will;  
put me to doing,  
put me to suffering;  
let me be employed for you,  
or laid aside for you,  
exalted for you,  
or brought low for you;  
let me be full,  
let me be empty,  
let me have all things,  
let me have nothing:  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things  
to your pleasure and disposal

Pour down your Spirit on Preston Baptist Church.  
Help us as members and friends to keep walking in your ways  
that the promises which we make today,  
and the life that we live together,  
may become an offering of love,  
our duty and delight,  
truly glorifying to you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.