

**Minister: Rev. Glen Graham 01884 34077 Church Secretary: Marilyn Bidmead 07749 086976**

Hello, and welcome to our magazine. I hope you find something of interest in this issue.

#### LOVE.

The first of the Fruit of the Spirit is Love. February 14<sup>th</sup> is now known (it would seem) as “Love Day”. We all know that we should tell those we love that we love them more often than one day a year. But what is Love?

Love is so hard to define that the Greeks had four words for it:

#### Éros (ερωσ éros)

The Love that is celebrated on February 14<sup>th</sup> is “Éros”, the love between lovers. Romantic love if you will.

#### Storge (στοργή storgē)

A second word, “Storge” is the word for the love between a parent and child. A nurturing love that enables growth and life. This is normally an unconditional love.

#### Phileo/Philia (φιλία philia)

The third word is “Philia” which is the love between siblings or friends. A love that stands by someone no matter what, a love that is supportive and sacrificial.

#### Agápe (αγάπη agape)

The final word for love is “Agápe”. This word has elements of the other three words but is more than them. This is the love that God has for his people and the World. It is all-giving, unconditional and sacrificial. This is the love that drove our Lord to the cross to give his life in sacrifice for the World. This is the love that is part of God’s own nature. When John the Apostle declares: “God is Love” it is this word he has in mind.

It is Agápe, Jesus has in mind when he commanded us to love one another as he has loved us. This is the quality of love that God wants to develop in us by his Spirit over time. All we can do is to ask him to help produce the fruit of love in our hearts and lives. By this love, the World will know who God is and what he is like.

May the Holy Spirit be at work in each one of us producing this most precious fruit which allows all the other fruit to flower.

Finally, as Lent begins, may we all be more aware of the presence of God as we prepare to receive the Easter message of hope and freedom. As Jesus spent time with God in the desert, he was given strength to do all his Father asked of him. As we spend time in prayer, we too are sustained and strengthened.

May God be your comfort and guide this month.

Yours in Christ.

**Glen and Rowan Graham.**

#### I LOVE TO LIVE

*Today, dear Lord, I'm 80, and there's much I haven't done.  
I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81.  
But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do,  
Would you please let me stay awhile, till I am 82?  
So many places I want to go, so very much to see,  
Do you think you could manage to make it 83?  
The world is changing very fast, there is so much in store:  
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.  
And if, by then, I'm still alive, I'd like to stay till 85!*

*More planes will be in the air, so I'd really like to stick  
And see what happens to the world when I turn 86.  
I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask  
(And it must be nice in heaven),  
But I'd really like to stay, until I'm 87.  
I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes will be late.  
But it would be so pleasant to be around at 88.  
I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time.*

So I'm sure I'll be willing to leave at the age of 89...  
maybe!

Just one more thing I'd like to say: dear Lord, I thank you  
kindly,  
But if it's okay with You, I'd love to live past 90!

## TRADCRAFT AND CHURCH CARDS

I will now be having a table every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday with a combination of Traidcraft and Church cards. Traidcraft will be priced in green and Church cards in red so that it will be clear which you are supporting.

Some of the prices in the Traidcraft range have risen considerably due to global political and economic factors. I wouldn't want anyone to feel obligated to continue buying if they feel the price rise is too much. However, an alternative might be to change the items you buy i.e. if you currently buy coffee, which has risen in price, perhaps you could buy something like sugar or rice instead. The more regular buys I get, the easier it is to plan orders. Traidcraft continues to ensure that farmers and craftsmen receive a fair wage for their products which is why there has been a rise in prices. The last year has been a bit down and up. We now regularly attend the monthly Uffculme market which has been going well. The monthly stall at the church has been doing better and it was great to have more people attend the coffee morning in January. We also go to the Walronds twice a year—the lovely people over there personally cover the cost of the stall or I wouldn't be able to afford a table. Lastly I have Real Easter Eggs in stock—£ 3.99 each and a range of Easter cards and gifts for the Church stall.



## Church Diary *Welcome!*

You are welcome to join in any of our activities. Newcomers to the town and holiday visitors are particularly welcome.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Services are at 10.30 on a Sunday morning. We have a regular Morning Sunday School. Children take part in the 10.30 service before going to their own activity. Please join us after the service for coffee in the Hall.

March  
5<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
12<sup>th</sup> am Pam Roberts and Ian Finch  
19<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham—*Communion*  
26<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham

April  
2<sup>nd</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
9<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham  
16<sup>th</sup> am Rev. Glen Graham—*Communion*  
23<sup>rd</sup> am Dr. Adrian Bailey  
30<sup>th</sup> am Ray Ursell

**Cullompton Art House** Art gallery in the schoolroom during first 2 weeks of April. Opening hours to be advised.

**Cullompton Springfest** Crafts and refreshments in schoolroom Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Times to be advised

### House Group

Mondays, 10.30  
Tuesday, 19.30  
venues to be given on Sunday previous.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of month **Prayer Meeting**

Sat. 18<sup>th</sup> Mar. and 15<sup>th</sup> Apr.  
9.30 am in vestry.

1<sup>st</sup> Sat of month **Coffee Morning**

Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Mar. and 1<sup>st</sup> Apr. at Angie and Laurie's, 10.00.

### Lunch Club

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Mar. and 21<sup>st</sup> Apr., 12.30.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sat of month **Fairtrade**

Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Mar. and 8<sup>th</sup> Apr. a.m., in schoolroom or outside.

### Cuban evening

with Freda and Norman, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7 p.m.

### A.G.M.

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m.

### M.S.A. meeting

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2 p.m.

### Exeter Oddfellows service

2 p.m. Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March followed by refreshments in the schoolroom. All welcome.

### Maundy Thursday Supper

7 p.m. Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April

### Fellowship meeting

7.30 p.m. Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April