

# Coming soon

*These are some of the upcoming events in Thornbury Baptist Church:  
please pray for them and those that come.*

## SUNDAY EVENINGS @ 6.30pm

### DECEMBER

6th: Worship Space with Communion  
13th: Sunday Night Live : Celestial String Quartet  
20th : Carols in the Community  
27th: No evening meeting

### JANUARY

3rd: Worship Space with Communion  
10th: Sunday Night Live  
17th : No service at TBC - Ecumenical Service at Christ the King **6pm**  
24th: Bible School  
31st: Regional Celebration: Mike Hill, Bishop of Bristol

### EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

Monday 7th@2.30pm: Inside Out  
Saturday 12th @ 8.00am: Men's Breakfast  
Saturday 12th @ 7.30pm Gospel Choir Concert  
Christmas Eve Thursday 24th @ 6.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Day @ 10.00am Family Service

#### JANUARY

Sunday 3rd to Sunday 10th: Prayer week  
Coffee shop restarts Tuesday 12th  
Men's Breakfast: tba

[www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk](http://www.thornburybaptistchurch.co.uk) 01454 419118

Loving God, one another and the world

# CONNECT

## News and Prayer for December 2015

### A prayer for Peace...

A little while ago I went to both the new and old Coventry Cathedrals that sit side by side.

I admit that Cathedrals don't tend to inspire me to worship: they seem too grand and remote however wonderful the architecture might be. The Coventry Cathedrals were quite different, both the new and the old. As I expect many of you may know, the old Cathedral was blown to bits in WW2 but rather than flatten it entirely it was decided to leave the ruins standing and to turn them into a centre for peace.

This month we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, so I thought it appropriate to share a prayer that I found in the old Cathedral, written by an organisation called Pax Christi - The Peace of Christ.

*Dear God*

*We thank you for giving us your peace.*

*Help us to spread peace at home and at school by loving and caring for one another.*

*Help us to spread peace by listening to one another, even when we don't agree.*

*Help us to spread peace by sharing our time with those who are lonely and who need a friend.*

*Help us to spread peace by thinking and praying for children who have no food or who are frightened and live in fear.*

*Let us pray every day for peace in our families, for our friends, and for ourselves.*

*Amen*

*Mike Levy*

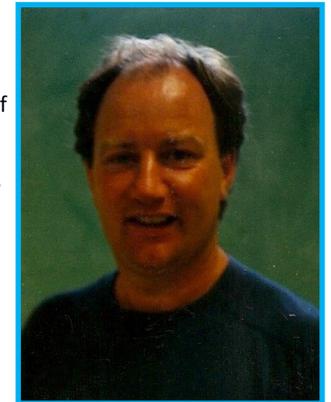
### Everyday missionaries

*Each month we pray for an individual and for all those who share the same area of life and work.*

*Their **Frontline!***

*This month we are praying for those who work in the construction/building industry.*

Hello, my name is John Hucker. I have lived in the area all of my life and been part of TBC for more years than I care to remember. I am married to Brenda who is also part of the church.



I have worked in the construction industry for many years, both on large building sites for big construction companies, and also private domestic building work. I am fortunate because I have always enjoyed my work and the banter which is part and parcel of the building world.

The building industry is notoriously precarious and suffers from quite a few ups and downs depending on how well the economy is performing. However I am grateful for the way God has provided for me over the years. At present we have a good order book full of work, which keeps me and the chaps who work with me fully employed

**Please pray:**

- Thanksgiving for God's generous supply of work
- Dealing with the ups and downs of an insecure industry
- For God's grace in dealing with work colleagues
- That Christ would be seen in the quality of work and words

## Renewal

### *Reaching out to God for a deeper awareness of his life in us*

Seeking renewal can take a number of forms. For example,

It can sound like repentance: *"Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me"* (Ps.51:10)

It can sound like a cry of frustration: *"Wake up Lord! Why are you asleep? Rouse yourself! Don't reject us for ever!"* (Ps.44:23)

It can sound weary: *"... like a dry, worn-out and waterless land, my soul is thirsty for you"* (Ps63:1)

It can sound determined: *"I will not let you go unless you bless me"* (Gen. 32:26)

It can sound different from person to person and time to time. What does your cry for renewal sound like at the moment?

## Salvation

### *Praying for those we long to see come to faith*

We don't want to lose our 'fruitfulness on the frontline' emphasis. As well as praying for friends, family and colleagues who you want to introduce to Jesus, pray for:

- anyone you have met for the first time on your frontline recently.
- people who you regularly meet on your frontline.
- for the opportunity to invite someone on your frontline to one of our Guest events in the run-up to Christmas

## Healing

### *Seeking God's healing and wholeness for those with health problems*

Pray for . . . Sarah Britten, Jean Cannon, Edna Clarke, Alison Collett, Joan Colwill, Noel Defraigne, Ray Goudie, Andy Graham, Rosemary Howell, Ruth Hulse, Joan Jones, Natalia Kent's mum Tanya, Marie Merrick, Steve Pritchard, June Short, Mike Spiller, Len Steele, Rachel Stracey's dad Peter, Valerie Swift, young Conan, little Charlie, Tom Pelham and his young family, and others who are suffering with ill health. Pray also for those in the fellowship who have recently been bereaved.

## Children & Youth

### *Helping to grow a faith that lasts*

Pray:

- \* For all the nativity plays in all the schools and churches in Thornbury, that the children will feel the love and joy of Jesus shining through.
- \* That students returning home will know the warmth and love of close fellowship with TBC and with their families.
- \* That our children and youth workers will enjoy some rest over the Christmas break.

## National & Global Issues

### *Crying out to God for the deep needs of our nation and our world*

Pray:

- \* For the Climate Change conference in Paris this month
- \* For all victims of terrorism around the world , and world leaders as they respond
- \* For those fleeing conflict in their homelands , and those that care for them

## This month's TBC Mission Project : Youth Cafés

### *Soaking our many outreach activities in prayer*

**There are two Youth Cafés, Basement Café for year 7-9 and Attic Café for Years 10-12. They take place on a Thursday and Friday evening. They are open to all and are places where the young people of the town meet Church. Many of those young people simply want a place where they can be safe, enjoy themselves and be loved; some have very specific needs and are on the margins.**

Pray:

- \* For all who lead the Cafés, for a soft heart, wisdom, discernment and the presence of God in reaching out, loving and finding ways to share faith
- \* For the young people that come, and their families, that they will grow, support each other and welcome the love of God into their lives.
- \* For others to engage in this ministry as leaders.

## This month's Local & UK Mission Partner : Streetspace (Dan Potter)

### *Soaking our many outreach activities in prayer*

We are thankful that the good work supporting young people in our community continues. We acknowledge the presence of Holy Spirit with us in the street-based 'detached' work, which has restarted with new volunteers after a break – the police speak favourably about this and anecdotally point to reduced levels of anti-social behaviour over the last few years. We hope that this work will pick up quickly to re-gain a good level of relationships. The users' group from the local skate park are excited to be beginning fundraising for their proposed design for an extension. This is a significant stage for the group and I'm praying that the young people will feel empowered, valued and listened to throughout this work.

**Please pray**

- for the wisdom needed in which mentoring referrals to accept from the local secondary schools, as well as which adult mentors to pair them with; **giving thanks** for a place of influence in the lives of many; **asking** for peace and reconciliation for the young people with particularly difficult or chaotic home situations, and for clarity for the mentors in how we can best support them.
- for a continued sense of God's provision and leading in direction of the work. South Glos are currently proposing to cut even more funds supporting young people. Others groups will also be majorly impacted if this goes ahead. You can give feedback on the proposal by searching online for *"South Glos positive activities proposal"*.

## This month's World Mission Partner: ROPE

### *Touching the world through praying for our wider mission links and for the persecuted Church*

**ROPE is committed to combating the impact of poverty across the world. Working through a network of partners, who like us are motivated by Christian compassion, our goal is to meet the immediate needs of individuals and communities, whilst always striving to create long-term sustainable change in the lives of the poor. 100% of all gifts given to ROPE are used for the direct benefit of the poor**

Pray:

- \* For Lifeline Gifts campaign , that it will be even more successful this year. £3 will buy Christmas Gifts, £50 will provide food and medicines for a Syrian refugee family.
- \* For the recruitment process for a new CEO, which is now underway.