

# 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

### OCTOBER

4th: An Evening with Geraldine Latty

11th : Worship Space with Communion (Dan Potter)

18th : Prayer and Praise

25th: Digging Deeper: Science, Beginnings and the Bible (Ernest Lucas)

### NOVEMBER

1st: Worship Space with Communion

8th: Sunday Night Live with Kate Jinadu and friends

15th : Prayer and Praise

22<sup>nd</sup>: Bible School

29th: Regional Celebration: Steve Brady

### EVENTS

#### OCTOBER

Saturday 10th @ 8.00am : Men's breakfast

Monday 12th @ 2.30pm: Inside Out (Len Clift)

Wednesday 14th @ 7.30pm: Children & Youth Team Gathering (Safeguarding)

Wednesday 21st @ 8.00pm : Family Forum

#### NOVEMBER

Monday 9th@2.30pm: Inside Out

Saturday 14th @ 8am: Men's Breakfast

Tuesday 17th: Christmas Lights Evening

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

Loving God, one another and the world

# CONNECT

News and Prayer for October 2015

## Prayer for Mercy

When faced with a crisis of the magnitude we see unfolding as refugees stream from Syria looking for safety it is hard to know how to pray.

To aid us in this Fred Drummond, director of prayer for the EA has written this prayer. So let us lift up these precious people to our Father in Heaven.

### Lord have Mercy

*Gracious God,  
For every tear-streaked child  
For every voiceless mother  
For every desperate father  
For every homeless and stateless family  
We cry out to you  
Lord have mercy*

*For those slumped in despair  
For those on their knees unable to take another step  
For those who look and feel hunted and hopeless  
For those who live in the desperate captivity of fear  
Lord have mercy*

*Soften our hearts  
Move us to action  
Fill us with compassion  
Let us be channels of your love  
Lord have mercy*

*Lord whose family had to flee a country  
Lord who had nowhere to lay your head  
Lord who weeps over the city  
Lord have mercy  
Move us to make a difference  
To act with love and understanding  
To offer hope and strengthen the weak  
To put the needs of the broken above our own  
Lord have mercy*

## Everyday missionaries

You might have seen me fiddling with a bass or the sound desk on a Sunday morning. The rest of the week, I work for a large communications company and spend most of my time discussing solutions as varied as connected cars and cows, through to healthcare or security solutions. My job is to help my customers assets become part of the internet of things.



I deal with a wide range of people from CEOs to operations people as far north as Scotland and as far south as New Zealand. Although it's great to speak with Asia Pac in the morning, be in London for a meeting mid-day and then be on a call to the US in the afternoon, it's difficult to get to know people well when our paths cross so rarely and then for only very business-focussed discussions. This way of working will only increase and has implications for the way we are friends with people at work. Most of the people that I know well enough to invite to an Alpha course for instance are either already in church or live hundreds of miles away.

**Please pray** that I can share my faith in an authentic way that might lead those "remote friends" to look for a person or church to start them on their Christian journey.

*Richard Crabtree*

## Renewal

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

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked this question to a group that had cried out for his mercy and blessing (Matt 20:29-34). It's as if a general cry for help ('God bless us') wasn't enough. Jesus wanted to hear what *specifically* they believed he could do for them?

Think of your own life with God. Think of our life together as Christian community in Thornbury. What *specifically* would it look like for Jesus to bless you, and us together?

Pray in the light of your reflection.

## Salvation

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

Thinking of our "Fruitfulness on the Frontline" theme:

- \* Pray for anyone you have met for the first time on your frontline recently
- \* Pray for people who you regularly meet on your frontline
- \* Pray for the opportunity to invite someone on your frontline to one of our Guest events later in the autumn

## Healing

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

Pray for . . . Sarah Britten, Jean Cannon, Edna Clarke, Alison Collett, Joan Colwill, Peggy Crane, Noel Defraigne, Ray Goudie, Andy Graham, Rosemary Howell, Ruth Hulse, Natalia Kent's mum Tanya, Marie Merrick, Jean Mulley, Bryan Selway, June Short, Mike Spiller, 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 mentored through Streetspace, that real breakthroughs will be made
- \* For the Open the Book teams as they present the Bible in our local primary schools and New Siblands
- \* For George, the CYM student who we are helping with his final year, that he will be affirmed by God as he works with us
- \*

## National & Global Issues

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

Pray:

- \* For all those fleeing their homelands in search of peace and security; that there would be a loving and humane response by European countries to the crisis.
- \* For our politicians, for wise discourse during the conference recess and for God's blessing on parliament as it resumes on 12 October.
- \* For peace and reconciliation in Libya, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and other areas of the world where there is conflict and division.

## This month's TBC Mission Project : Sports Outreach

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

**Our Football Club has around 30 young guys, most of whom have no other contact with church. In 2014 we won the Gloucester FA Cup at Almondsbury and were grateful for all the support received from the church on that occasion.**

**I am chairman of the Bristol Churches League in which we play, and have been privileged to see young guys become Christians through some of the teams, and to see others "walk the talk" amongst their peers as their relationship with God grows.** *Dave Finney, Chairman, Thornbury Baptist Football Club*

Pray:

- \* For Chris Beddoes, our manager as he seeks God's wisdom in running the team
- \* For spiritual growth in our team and across the whole of the Bristol Churches league
- \* That closer links may be made between churches and their football teams

## This month's Local & UK Mission Partner : One25

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

**One25 was founded 20 years ago to reach out to women in central Bristol involved in, or vulnerable to, street sex work. The aim is to "support women to break free and build new lives away from violence, poverty and addiction", by living out Jesus' proclamation to "set the captives free". Volunteer and paid workers need patience, grace and resilience to provide support such as healthcare, showers and clean clothing, food, safe space, advocacy, unconditional love and respect. 55 women were helped in this way last year.**

Pray:

- \* For workers to have strength, hope and inspiration from the Holy Spirit
- \* For women to have protection, hope, courage, and to come to know Jesus
- \* For protection from violence and injustice; for a vision for the future; and for the ongoing provision of resources

## This month's World Mission Partner: Jews for Jesus

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

**Stephen Pacht, based in Geneva, is a full-time missionary for Jews for Jesus, an organisation of Messianic Jews who tell fellow Jews God's message of salvation and that Jesus is the Messiah. They work in more than 20 countries witnessing to Jews and non-Jews through evangelistic outreach and one-to-one contact.**

Pray:

- \* That all those visiting their new shop in Hendon will come to know Jesus as their saviour
- \* For the salvation of A, a very orthodox Rabbi drawn to new age thinking; S, a Jewish lawyer and financier who is a humanist; B, a Moroccan-born Jewess drawn to Jesus and Kabbalah; A, a British-born lady married to a German gentile; The members of the former Jewish Circle
- \* For Stephen's family: for his wife Deborah balancing a number of commitments; for his eldest children and his mother, that they will turn to Christ; for his younger daughters struggling with language differences between church and school
- \* For God's direction for the future: whether Stephen should expand the work to German-speaking Switzerland or to southern France.