

World Events

Use the news as a source of prayer pointers. Pray for:

- Kenya, following the recent re-run of the election. The country is divided and there are fears of another cycle of post-election violence. When that happened 10 years ago, more than 1,100 people died.
- Christians in Nepal following the recent law criminalising evangelism and conversion.
- a peaceful resolution to the tensions within Spain.
- children being used as drug-runners by Mexico's drug cartels.

Personal Renewal

Try this in November. Memorise this short prayer:

You Lord, are in this place
Your Presence fills it
Your Presence is love.

You Lord, are in my heart
Your Presence fills it
Your Presence is love.

As you move through each day, train yourself to pause and say these words. As you go for coffee with a friend; as you enter the business meeting; as you return home; as you walk the dog or settle the children.

Pray into the reality of God with you, God in you.

Immanuel: God is with us. This is perhaps the most astounding statement in Scripture. Not that God exists. Not even that God loves. But that the God who is and who loves, is near, with us, interested in our lives and accompanying our days.

This is astounding: that the God who speaks universes into being and who sustains every living thing by his power, offers himself to us as companion, parent and ever-present friend. And so, isn't it shocking that we seem so capable of losing the reality of his presence in the mundane business of daily life?! As we lead up to Advent meditate on the closeness of Immanuel. Learn to visualise the reality of his presence.

"As I work, a Loved Presence over my shoulder: as I drive, a Loved Passenger beside me. In my reading, cooking, studying: whilst teaching, nursing, accounting: in the maelstrom of the supermarket, or waiting for the bus or rain - ever the loving sense of a Presence, always that longing for my Creator".

(Guy Brinkworth - Thirsting for God)

November 2017



Frontline Mission - Education & Childcare

Hello, my name is Becky and along with my husband Paul and daughter Clemmie I have been part of the church here for a long, long time! Both Paul and myself are involved in leading worship in the church and Clemmie enjoys being part of the Sunday groups and the new Xtreme Club. I have also taught at a local school for a long, long time. Teaching is a challenging job in the current climate, where we find ourselves having to deal with significantly reduced resources and the stress and low morale that follows. It is also a hugely rewarding job, working with some fantastic young people and feeling like you can contribute to their development and growth as people. I particularly love helping students to be aspirational and to follow their dreams! Being a Christian in the educational environment requires sensitivity but I feel it is important to be a witness in trying to be kind and care for all in the school community.



Prayer points

- For the young people that they would find school a happy and encouraging environment and a place where they can develop and grow.
- For the staff that they would continue to deliver such good care and education despite challenges.
- For Christian teachers that they would have strength and sensitivity to be salt and light in education.

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following the way of Jesus

loving God, one another
and the world



Community Mission

Our two long-standing youth clubs, Basement (years 7 to 9) and Attic Café (years 10-13) provide a first contact with church and the love of Jesus for many young people in the town and a link between detached, mentoring and schools work and the church. As such both clubs can present challenges as we relate to many young people with difficult issues to add to the normal stresses and strains of teenage years. The clubs are open to all, and we would love to see more young people from our family there to help share with those who do not yet connect with Jesus in the same way.



X Stream Club (years 3 to 6) is a new venture that meets once a month and is for those who are part of X Stream on a Sunday and their friends. The aim is to build a supportive group at primary school age and to share the good news of Jesus.

Please pray for:

- More leaders to commit to leading these clubs.
- Wisdom and discernment about how best to share the love of Jesus.
- Changed lives as we minister to each individual.
- Positive relationships in our partnership relationships with schools and social services.

All of our mission partners are listed under the 'mission' tab on our church website, so do search there for more information. Many also have their own websites, and you will find those links in their listing on the church website.

Use the weekly notice sheet and e-news to pray for **healing needs** in the church.

Local/UK Mission Partners

Willow Tree Centre is our local Pregnancy Centre in Yate. Advisors belong to different fellowships and have had varied life experiences but all have a heart for listening to, caring for and standing alongside women and their partners who are going through difficult situations related to pregnancy and baby loss. Prayer partners support the work.

Please pray for:

- A group attending the Pregnancy Centres Network annual conference 18th November in Birmingham.
- Advisors and clients as they work together: especially remember potential clients who may be nervous about coming to share their stories and dilemmas.
- The links built with other organisations that support couples and their families affected by baby loss.
- Healthcare professionals to remember Willow Tree when they need to refer patients on.
- That the trustees and director will sense God's leading for future developments.

Mission Partners

TBC member Julia Jolley works for SAT-7 which supports the Christians of the Middle East and North Africa in their Christian witness and lives. SAT-7 beam the Good News of the Kingdom of God, via satellite television, straight into people's homes, into the centre of family life across the region.

There is a SAT-7 Prayer Guide included within this month's Connect. Contact Julia or the church office for more copies. See more details about the work of SAT-7 on their website: sat7.org

Salvation

We believe that Jesus is the Saviour of all people, and that all people need to be saved.

Pray for:

- opportunities to share faith with the many people who attend our community programmes: lunch club; Coffee Shop; Two by Two; youth clubs; Open House; Inside Out; FoodBank; football team etc
- friends who you might invite to one of our Advent or Christmas services.
- some of your frontline contacts, by name.