

Healing & Comfort

Please pray for the following members and friends of our church family, who have long-term health needs.

- Ruth Collett (cancer).
- Bella (aged 12) (cancer).
- Angela Miles (recovering from foot operation)
- Stephanie Ruse.
- John Calder.
- Mickey Flight (recovering from knee op).
- Sue Hallett (knee operation).
- John & Sally Payne's son-in-law, Mike (cancer).
- Jean Cannon.
- Marie Merrick.
- Vanessa Burke (cancer).
- John and his daughter who has now made contact.
- Doreen & Michael, friends of Angela Symonds.
- Jasmine Coe, Joan Jones' great-granddaughter, who is now ready to accept help.
- . Baby twins Etori and Ariana and their family (born very prematurely).

World Events

Pray particularly this month for:

- Please pray for all Christians who have celebrated Christmas in the Middle East this year, that they will be filled with joy and peace, and that God will protect them through 2019.
- The **UK Government** as they continue to wrestle with the Brexit challenge.
- **Chinese Christians:** A recent surge of police action against churches in China has raised concerns the government is getting even tougher on unsanctioned Christian activity.

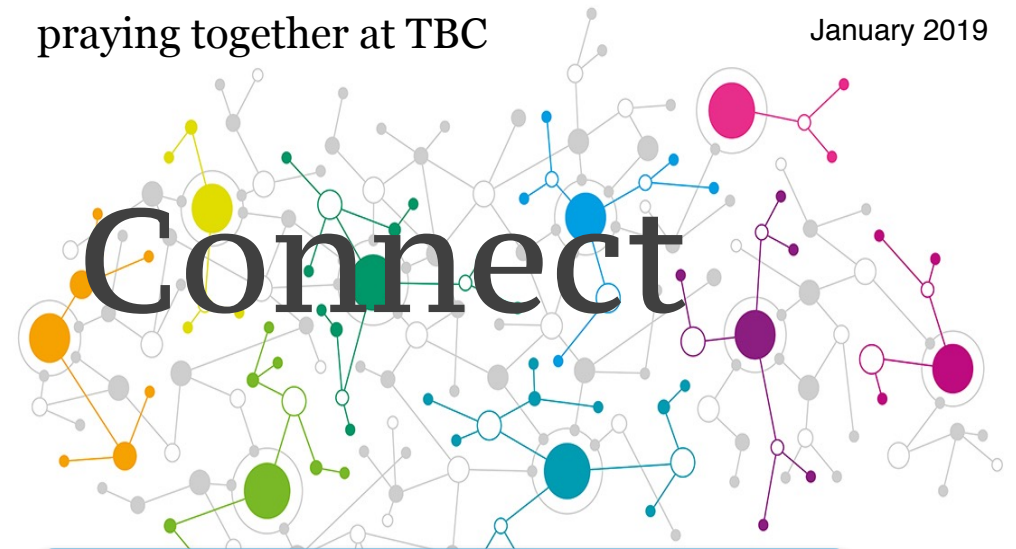
Renewal

Use the words of Psalm 51 as your prayer for renewal this month.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my
iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within
me. Do not cast me away from your
presence, and do not take your holy
spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your
salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

praying together at TBC

January 2019



TBC's Frontline Missionaries - Healthcare Workers

My name is Tim Walsh and, with my wife, Catherine, and children (Edward, Nathalie and Zoe) we have been attending Thornbury Baptist Church for a number of years. The family are involved in the music group and youth work.

My job is very hard to describe but my official title is Professor of Medical Microbiology and I run many international projects including collaborations with Médecins Sans Frontières and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. My work involves many trips abroad and so am away from home for extended periods of time which is tough on the rest of the family. The majority of my work is in Africa and South Asia but in particular we work in hospitals in Northern Nigeria, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Our studies aim to understand the key causes of neonatal sepsis and prevent the mortality of infants in poverty-stricken regions/countries. These countries are mainly Islamic and over the years I have made many close Muslim friends who know of my Christian faith and that it is a central part of why I do what I do. I love my work and, in my very small way, it is a privilege to serve and help these people.



Prayer Points:

- That organisations and funders will not ignore the plight of the very poor or sick in regions of the world where there is still a pressing need to do so much more.
- That God will continue to inspire me to help in what little way I can to improve the wellbeing of the people in the regions where we work, and that I can straddle the needs of family and work.

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following the way of



*loving God, one another
and the world*

Community Mission

The GOOSE club is committed to working in partnership with parents and carers and Gillingstool primary school, to provide safe, stimulating, educational and enjoyable childcare for all children who attend. We aim to help parents to balance work commitments and family life by providing convenient affordable and high quality childcare before and after school during school term time, at the Thornbury Baptist church centre.

The school have commented that the families are very appreciative of the flexibility that GOOSE allows and although this is very hard to manage, at times, we strive to continue to offer this service.

Please pray:

- For all the children and their families.
- For strength in managing unwanted behaviour.
- For staffing, that the right staff will be appointed as needs arise. (Breakfast club needs extra help in 2019 two days a week.)
- That through our actions we will show Gods love.

We Won't Stop Bristol (3 -17 March 2019) - As it's TEAR Fund's 50th anniversary, to mark this special milestone, we're holding events with churches across Bristol – calling on each other to recommit to ending extreme poverty.

Local & UK Mission

The volunteers of New Start Debt Advice meet with people face to face from all walks of life, helping them to escape from the blight of indebtedness. We do this by providing free, unconditional, confidential advice and practical support. Our trained debt adviser team offer advice specific to each client's needs and we give as much time and support as required until debts have been repaid and financial stability achieved. During the advice process clients are also be taught budgeting and money management skills to ensure they have control over their finances enabling them to remain debt free in the future.

Please pray:

- For more advisors to be able to deal with the current demand for help,
- For wisdom in dealing with the people we meet,
- That we will see God at work and that this will draw those we help to Jesus.

Mission Partners

Tearfund aim to help the people in the world who are in the greatest need, regardless of race, religion, gender or nationality. We do this by: Identifying the places of greatest poverty, working through local churches, church-based and Christian partners to seek out and help the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in those places.

Please pray for:

Yemen

- Pray for all those who still lack access to basics such as safe water.
- Pray for peace in Yemen, which is much needed to help alleviate the current food crisis.
- Ask God to protect our partners, as they seek to help those in greatest need.

Mali

- Fighting has continued to escalate in Mali, where 70,000 people have been forced to leave their homes. Around half of these have little or no access to food. Furthermore, 716 schools have been closed. Please pray for provision, protection, and peace.

Pakistan

- Please pray for Tearfund's Pakistani colleagues and local partners as they seek to bring God's peace into the ongoing security situation there retreat space.

Children & Youth

This month the prayer focus is about the world in which Children and Youth grow up, of which parents need to be aware and in which the Children and Youth Ministry of TBC takes place. Let these statistics from recent surveys guide your prayers:

- 78% of 10 to 12 year olds think it is important to look good in selfies (ComRes).
- 1 in 10 children are obese by the age of 5 (House of Commons).
- 33% of girls are sexually harassed while wearing their school uniform (Plan International UK).
- 60% of young people regularly feel stressed (Princes Trust).
- 96% of teachers have worked with children experiencing mental health issues (NASUWT).

Talking of Jesus

Pray for:

- A specific friend, colleague or relative who you see on a regular basis and who you would like to share Jesus with. Ask for God to provide the the opportunity to share, and for wisdom and courage when he does!
- TBC's outreach and community work in 2019. Pray that we would see folks coming to faith this year
- The ALPHA course planned to start on January 29th. Is there anyone you could bring? Pray for them.