

Healing & Comfort

Please pray for the following members and friends of our church family.

- David Chatt (cancer).
- Ruth Collett (cancer).
- Debby Collett who is having an operation on her left foot on August 5th.
- Bella (aged 12) (cancer).
- Angela Miles (foot surgery).
- Stephanie Ruse (recovery following brain surgery).
- John Calder.
- Sue Hallett (awaiting knee surgery).
- John & Sally Payne's son-in-law, Mike (stage 4 cancer).
- Jean Cannon.
- Marie Merrick.
- Vanessa Burke (cancer).
- John and his daughter.
- Doreen & Michael, friends of Angela Symonds.
- Wendy Titterton.

Nick and Dorothy Wagstaff would like to thank everyone at TBC who has prayed for Dorothy's great-nephew, Ben, who was diagnosed with lymphoma in January. We are praising God for his faithfulness throughout this year and especially for the wonderful news that Ben is now cancer free!

World Events

Pray particularly this month for:

Mahrokh is a 65-year-old Iranian woman who converted to Christianity from Islam. Her home was raided by three intelligence agents in December 2018 and Mahrokh was interrogated from morning to evening for ten days.

Mahrokh was released after submitting bail of 30 million Toman (£2,000). In January she was brought before the prosecutor to answer charges of 'acting against national security', forced to go to a religious leader to be 'instructed' and directed to return to Islam. She chose Christ.

On 29 July, Mahrokh was notified of a one-year prison sentence for 'propaganda against the system'. She is allowed to appeal the sentence. We know that 'The Lord loves righteousness and justice' (Psalm 33:5). Please continue to pray for our sister.

Renewal

Who are your three closest Christian friends? Take time this month to pray for them.

Pray for:

- a renewal of their love for God
- a deeper appreciation of God's presence in their everyday lives
- a strengthening of their faith.
- If possible - arrange to pray with them, as well as for them.

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following the way of

loving God, one another
and the world



praying together at TBC

August 2019

Connect

TBC's Frontline Missionaries - Dads!

I am Tom, a Dad of two lively lads, Andrew and Benjamin. Being a Dad is one of the favourite things in my life: however, it is a hugely pressured place to be, managing competing expectations of my boys, myself and society. My introduction to being a Dad was quite traumatic. My twin boys were born 10 weeks early and spent their first 7 weeks in hospital. They are now, however, happy and healthy 8 year old boys. I have been on a steep learning curve since day one and this along with other family pressures and a high pressure work arena takes its toll. I have tried to ensure that I prioritise taking the time to love and enjoy my boys, however, I recognise that to do this effectively I need to have a healthy relationship with my wife and with myself. The importance of building relationships with other men in similar circumstances has also been of significant importance to me in my journey as a Dad.

Please Pray that Dads:

- Remember to keep God at the centre amongst the maelstrom of life.
- Maintain a healthy relationship with our wives.
- Ensure that we prioritise spending quality time with our families.
- Take time to just enjoy our children for who they are and not what we think they should be.
- Deliberately take time for ourselves (recharging our batteries).
- Develop healthy relationships with other Dads.
- Rely on God for the answers we don't have.



Community Mission

The TBC coffee shop attracts many young families from the community, including some sent by health visitors, with numbers now coming because they have just moved into the area. Many make new and significant friends and we are privileged to share the highs and some very deep lows with them.

Please Pray For:

- The summer break, that families who can easily become isolated without groups such as the coffee shop to attend, will continue to receive the support they need, especially those experiencing bereavement, mental health issues, relationship problems, financial challenges, children with additional needs.
- Families whose youngest child will be starting pre-school or school in September so won't be returning to coffee shop, that they will settle well, and that the adults will remember the love and support they received among us and so be drawn to Jesus.
- All who volunteer in the coffee shop that they will have a good rest over the summer, and that we will be bold in our witness of Jesus' love as we work among the families again in September.
- The appointment of a pioneer worker to minister among these families and discern ways to put planks in the bridge to help them to draw closer to Jesus.

Local & UK Mission

My name is Lindz West and I front the band LZ7 and am CEO of an organisation and record label called Light. I am married to Lucy West, formerly Britten, of the Britten family with Mike and Wendy at Thornbury Baptist! We have two little Wests, Jack and Willow and currently live and work in Manchester. LZ7 and Lights mission statement is to 'take the life changing message of Jesus to young people through music!' In the last two years we have been face to face with over 1.2 million young people speaking life, hope, future and the message of Jesus to an often-hopeless world. Thanks for standing with us Thornbury Baptist! It means the world to us!

Please Pray:

Pray for us as a family, but our main prayer point right now is that the young people that respond at our shows, schools, tours and festivals would be discipled through their baby steps of faith into a real relationship with Jesus. Our schools' tours are called ILLUMINATE and In Peterborough in Dec 2018 we had 1900 young people show up to the end of week gig and 1400 respond. My prayer is that the local church would be equipped to take the new Christians on in their faith.

World Mission

We continue to receive encouraging reports from Mircea and Ronela (Rock of Ages Prison Ministry, as their ministry continues working in prisons all over Romania:-

"One inmate gave thanks to God that he came to prison to understand God's love! Studying the Bible and being enrolled in the Bible study programme, he became eager to learn more about God's love... Even in prison, he knows that he is not alone, but is with Jesus. Thank you for your prayers for this ministry."

Please pray for:

- The celebrations after 25 years of work in the Romanian prisons with this unique ministry.
- The volunteers in the churches that faithfully serve the work in the prisons and for the Conference that they will have in September to encourage them in the work.
- A group of Muslim men in the Port Alba prison who recently came to faith – that their faith will grow.
- Mircea and Ronela's health as they travel long distances to recruit more volunteers for work in the prison.
- Finances to enable the work to continue.

Children & Youth

Please pray for:

- Those going to Soul Survivor (3 - 7 August), Scripture Union and other festivals and camps, that God will leave a lasting imprint on their lives.
- Ellie, Gwen and Nat from SNG who join Mike and Helen (Sydenham) on mission in Transylvania (23 - 31 August), as they follow the Spirit in both giving and receiving.
- All those waiting on A level, GCSE, BTEC and other results for them to trust that God has the future in his hands.

Talking of Jesus

Please keep praying for:

- Those who have completed the adult and youth Alpha Courses. Pray for encounters with God as they continue their journeys towards faith.
- Significant encounters during our summer outreach events.
- Your own friends, neighbours, family and frontline connections. Pray for the opportunity to share Jesus with at least one of them in this coming month.
- Increasing boldness to speak out for Jesus when he gives the opening.