# Healing & Comfort

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

- Kathryn Strode (cancer)
- · David Chatt (cancer).
- · Ruth Collett (cancer).
- Debby Collett (recovery from foot operation)
- · Bella (aged 12) (cancer).
- Stephanie Ruse (recovery following brain surgery).
- · John Calder.
- Sue Hallett (for accelerated healing).
- Wendy Box
- John & Sally Payne's son-inlaw, Mike (stage 4 cancer).
- · Jean Cannon's family.
- · Marie Merrick.
- · Vanessa Burke (cancer).
- · John and his daughter.
- Doreen & Michael, friends of Angela Symonds.
- · Wendy Titterton.
- James (local person facing challenges).

If you become aware of a pastoral need, please contact Paul Ferguson.

#### World Events

# Use the news as a prompt for prayer. Pray particularly this month for:

- The people of the UK as we head for a General Election in December, and as the country responds afterwards.
- The tensions in DRC where the population feels that the UN Peace-Keeping troops are not protecting them against rebel attacks.
- Those suffering after hostile action between Palestinians and Israel in Gaza. Pray for peace.
- Christian communities in Northern Syria, displaced by the recent Turkish military action.

### Pioneer Families Minister

The advertisement for our Pioneer Family Minister post is out and we are receiving expressions of interest. The closing date for applications is January 12th

#### Please pray for:

- The advert to be widely seen.
- · A good level of applicants.
- Wisdom for those evaluating the applications.

web: www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk email: office@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk tel: 01454 419118





TBC's Frontline Missionaries - Law & Civic Authority

Hello. My name is Angela Symonds. I live in Thornbury and share my home with three dogs. I have two sons and four lovely grandchildren. I worked as a nurse in Thornbury for many years and retired in 2018. I enjoy my retirement and keep very busy.

I was elected to the town council in 2015, and I am currently Thornbury Town Mayor and chairperson of the Town Council. I very much enjoy this role and it keeps me busy with many engagements to represent the town and council at various functions.



Being involved in local politics gives me the opportunity of working out my faith in practical ways, serving the local community.

#### Please Pray for:

- The wisdom to make the right decisions for the town at Council meetings.
- The ability to face new challenges with courage and the eyes of faith.
- The ability to set a good example to the community when representing the town and council as mayor.
- To lead a consistent Christian life and share the faith with others when opportunities arise.

# **Community Mission**

New Start Debt Advice

We have team of volunteers who meet with people struggling with debt from our local community.

Recently two of our advisors met with a client. She brought out some letters and opened them in front of our advisors. She told them she had been frightened about opening them but felt able to open them with the advisors present.

#### Please pray:

- Clients to see the process right through to becoming debt free
- Wisdom for the new advisors as they gain in experience
- Strength for advisors as they stand alongside people going through really difficult circumstances
- The Holy Spirit to be present in our meetings
- Us to see God at work in the circumstances of those we are helping.
- Clients to find faith through our work

Flyers are available for our Christmas services and events. You will find them in the stand in the foyer at TBC.

# ALPHA

We are planning our next Alpha Course to start on Wednesday January 22nd.

#### Please pray for:

- Anyone who you might like to invite.
- Those who are leading the course.
- Those who attend. Pray for them to quickly feel 'at home' in the group and for the group to develop a good dynamic.
- People to come to faith in Jesus.

#### **Christmas Events**

#### **Our Events**

Saturday 7th December: Dad's & Children's Morning

Sunday 15th December: Nativity from Scratch (10.30) & Classics & Carols for Christmas (6.30)

Christmas Eve: Carol Service

Christmas Day: All-Age Service

#### Please pray for:

- People who you might like to invite to one or more of these events.
- Guests who attend, that they might feel welcome and sense God's presence.
- Those who are leading the services or taking part in them.

# The Light of Hope

# **Prayer Week 2020**

Monday January 6th - Saturday January 11th

We will once again be starting the New Year with several days of prayer. This is an important statement of our dependence on God for the year that lies ahead, and our deep desire that he blesses us with 'immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us'.

# This year's theme

Our theme this year is 'the Light of Hope'. In a world of turmoil and seemingly increasing darkness, we want to pray for the light of God's love to shine in 2020.

#### How to Get Involved

Each day will be divided into one hour slots from 6.00am to 10pm (1pm on Saturday).

**Please sign up** for one or more hours on the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

**Come along** to our gathered times of praise and prayer on the evenings of Tuesday 7th and Thursday 9th.

On a practical note, if you sign up for a prayer session out of office hours, you will need to ask Rachael for the code for the key safe outside the church front door.

## **Prayer Zones**

The church centre will be set out with creative ways to pray. There will be seven 'Prayer Zones'.

- 1. Light of the World reflecting on the resurrection of Jesus as the source of all hope.
- Light in Our Darkness praying for those who are experiencing difficulty and challenge in their lives, and for those working with them.
- 3. Light for the Church praying for local churches to shine as lights for this part of Gods world.
- Light for the Community praying for our region and for our work with local people.
- Light for the Nation praying for national concerns and needs.
- 6. Light for the World praying for our mission partners, global and environmental needs.
- Waiting in the Light a quiet space for personal reflection.