

# From the elders

## National Day of Prayer, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

We are encouraging everyone to engage with this brilliant initiative. The call has been issued by the presidents of the ecumenical grouping Churches Together in England: the Archbishop of Canterbury, the RC Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, the Moderator of the Free Churches, the CTE president for the Orthodox Churches, and the CTE Pentecostal president, and is supported by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, Cytûn, the Church of Scotland, and the Evangelical Alliance.

Please join in, be great if small groups could connect up online to pray together. I love the idea about lighting a candle and placing it in your window at 7pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

<https://www.eauk.org/what-we-do/prayer-centre/national-day-of-prayer-about-the-coronavirus-crisis>

## Sunday service

Every Sunday there will be a short service from TBC, this week David will talk to us, hopeful some of our worship team will lead us and time for prayer too. This will be posted online at 10.30 a.m. Please do visit the website, Facebook page or YouTube channel.

## Sunday Morning Children and Families Ministry

There will also be an online family session available suitable for parents and their children in Bubbles, Splash and X-Stream age. This week it will be pre-recorded rather than live streamed but we hope to look at options for group interaction for next Sunday. This will be available on the TBC FB page, the families at TBC FB page and hopefully on our TBC website. For the family session some paper, pens, scissors and glue would be handy to fully participate!

## Midweek reflection

We will also post a midweek video from various team members to inspire, encourage and comfort. Plus, other stuff too.

[thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](http://thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)

[facebook.com/Thornbury-Baptist-Church-109489669112131/](https://www.facebook.com/Thornbury-Baptist-Church-109489669112131/)

[youtube.com/channel/UCM10waJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM10waJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw?view_as=subscriber)

## Pastoral care

There are going to be a number of challenges over the coming weeks with people being in need. Alongside people actually getting the COVID-19 virus with all the flu like symptoms, many will be self isolating or having to lone work from home, some people may be bereaved. Loneliness and isolation aren't good for the human soul, so we hope that you will still be the first line of pastoral care for those in your group. So that we can ensure that everyone is cared for and connected, **please could you stay connected your group and let me know of those who you think might be unconnected? If you would like a group to connect up with let David know too.** [david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:david@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)

Texts, phone calls, Facebook messages, cards, WhatsApp videos etc are all great ways of connecting.

## Financial need

We realise that with all the government restrictions, some people (particularly self employed or those on zero hours contracts) may financially struggle. If you are aware of someone in your group who needs help,

we have a care fund (Acts 4v34) that is to help out in just these circumstances. Do email me: [paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)

## Church Office

As I'm sure you are all aware, it is no longer possible to open the office and run it from the church building but Rachael will be attempting to work from home and you can contact her either using the church email or on the following mobile number: 07305863903 during the usual office opening hours (10am-2pm, Monday - Friday)

**If there is an urgent pastoral need please contact me and we can arrange a meeting online.  
Take care. Paul**