

Lockdown Prayer Chain: Keep Praying!

The TBC Prayer Chain is now live and will be running throughout this time of need in our world. Please would you join us? Here is the link with more details and how to sign up:

www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk/prayer-chain-2020

While the Coronavirus Pandemic continues, please pray For:

- Those affected by the virus, either suffering from it, in quarantine with symptoms or who have been bereaved by it.
- Those working through the virus in shops, and services to keep the country going.
- Those working in healthcare and other emergency services.
- Those in isolation at home, especially those feeling lonely, and families needing to occupy children. Also remembering particularly:
 - those who usually come to Lunch Club but who are now indoors alone, often without the benefits of social media.
 - those who we would usually meet through the week especially through coffee shop and Two by Two.
 - children and young people missing their friends and the structure of school, especially those who were expecting to take exams and are now unsure about their future.
- Those working to provide tests, treatment and an effective vaccine.
- Those in political leadership in the UK and globally.
- Those experiencing financial challenges arising from loss of work.

Pray also:

- That people's minds and hearts might be moved to consider deeper and eternal realities at this time.
- That in ways that may be currently unknown to us, God would be working his purposes out.
- That in the darkness, Christians' lives might shine with love, joy, peace and hope.
- For the various ways in which Christians are able to share the good news of Jesus through social media, including our own website and Facebook pages.



We are keen to support one another in this time of isolation. If you have concerns about anyone, please check on them if you are able, or please contact Paul Ferguson.

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

following the way of



*loving God, one another
and the world*

praying together at TBC

May 2020



TBC's Frontline Missionaries - The Financial Sector

Hello, my name is Mark. I currently work at South Gloucestershire Council in the finance team. My role supports the work of frontline staff delivering services to the schools in our area. The job involves a lot of numbers and spreadsheets which I enjoy but what really motivates me is being able to make a difference to those around me and those we provide services to.

Working in finance can sometimes feel less important than other roles, we are sometimes described as back office staff. Being a Christian in finance helps me to appreciate our role may be back office but done well we are able to help our organisations thrive and support those in other roles delivering the service on the front line.

Finally those of us in finance can find pressures coming from various directions and be tempted to move outside of rules, guidelines and best practice. As a Christian in finance I recently read 1 Corinthians 16:13 which nicely summarises my prayer for all of us in finance. May we be on guard, stand firm in our faith, be courageous and be strong.



Please pray for those working in Finance:

- that we will have wisdom and the courage to navigate our organisations through these uncertain times.
- that the way we deal with the finances and those around us will generate opportunities to share our faith.
- that we will have strength to stand with Integrity.

Community Mission

Around forty of our wonderful elderly, who live in Thornbury, Alveston or surrounding area, normally meet at TBC's Lunch Club once a week on a Wednesday during term time.

Because of the current situation, we have had to stop for the time being, and will re-start when we are safely able to.

Having been in touch with some of the diners, we know they are having a hard time with the restrictions, and missing the interaction with their families, and friends that they have made through lunch club.

Prayer requests:

- Please pray that the Lord will help them in the times they feel lonely, depressed and frustrated, and knowing what they are experiencing, that He would lift their spirits, and reach them, through a letter, phone call, or a realisation that HE cares and loves them.
- Also please pray for our staff that during this time, which they also may find difficult, that they find rest, and comfort in Him.

Local / UK Mission

Myrtle Lawrence writes:

I started doing some outreach work three years ago in Bedminster, which has now grown into a different type of ministry. I co-lead the team of Bristol Healing Rooms, and this has morphed, together with street outreach work in Bedminster and Stokes Croft, to become a more widely spread connected Kingdom expression, 'Church Without Walls'. Returning prodigals, those who've been healed through BHRs, those who don't 'fit in' anywhere easily (ex-addicts etc), new converts, and BHR's related team have connected up, and we've now got two healing home groups, a regular gathering for related teaching ministry, and a creative worship slot. People connect from churches, or none. Music, healing and deliverance are the main features.

I've been busy this past month, praying online with virus sufferers, (all healed thank God), pastoring those with mental health issues (two joined from rooms in hospital, one not a Christian yet), supporting South Bristol shut-ins with food parcels and contact (through locals), and creating/sending music videos to vulnerable people. We have no funds of our own, only what people can afford to give as gifts sometimes. So thank you all very much. Prayers and finance SO appreciated.

World Mission

Colombia has been on lock down for several weeks. In Hormiguero, where CaliKids have a number of sponsored children, many are ignoring the advice given about social distancing etc. and are actually socialising in the streets.

There are very many cases of extreme poverty in Colombia and street sellers who barely survive in normal times, are now unable to go on the streets: it is very possible that many of these people will actually starve.

Please pray for:

- Wilson & Daniela, a YWAM couple, who moved to Hormiguero with their children to help these needy children. Pray for their safety and health in this very difficult environment. Pray for God's protection.
- Pray for Pastor Fredy who has an orphanage with about 25 children mainly from the streets. Fortunately the home is in the mountains which should give them a degree of safety.
- Please pray for Lisbeth at the Fundacion Amigos y Hermanos. It is very difficult to keep in touch with many of the children and the families at this time.
- Pray for God's protection over them all. Pray they will be able to get food supplies and for the health of them all.

Children & Youth

Please pray for:

- Our younger children as they engage with God together with their parents and carers through the resources provided for them.
- ~ Those who would normally begin their GCSE and A Level exams this month as they wonder what the outcomes might be and the impact on their future.
- ~ Those for who there has been little or no engagement with the variety of means through which we seek to keep contact, that God will bring them through these difficult times.

Talking of Jesus

Please pray:

- For those attending our Online Alpha course (commenced April 29th), being hosted by Peter and Ali Hunter. Pray for a good group dynamic to develop online and for the Holy Spirit to move in their lives.
- For all of those who attend the weekly outreach activities run on our premises, who we currently have no face-to-face contact with. Pray for those who are connecting to some of our online postings, and pray that the challenges of Coronavirus might turn their minds and hearts towards Jesus.