

Healing and Care

Please pray for:

- Keiran, recently diagnosed with a brain tumour aged 22
- Malcolm Read and his wife Beryl.
- Graham and Connie Ogbourne
- Dorothy Wagstaff
- Kathryn Strode, undergoing treatment for cancer
- Ruth Collett
- Vanessa Burke with cancer.
- John Dean.
- John and his daughter.
- Wendy Titterton.
- Stewart suffering from stress.

Please note that this prayer list, and any other prayer needs mentioned in Connect are for sharing within this church fellowship. Details of the people mentioned must not be circulated or republished on social media.

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.



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World Events

Pray Pray for:

- Christians injured by the Palm Sunday church bombing in Indonesia.
- The Rohingya refugees who have lost everything in the fire in their temporary camp in Bangladesh.
- Relationships between Biden's USA and global powers such as Iran, Russia and China.
- The Uighur people of China.
- Christians and Christian charities in India facing increasing restrictions from India's tightening 'anti-conversion' laws.
- The just distribution of Covid vaccines to the world's poorest countries.

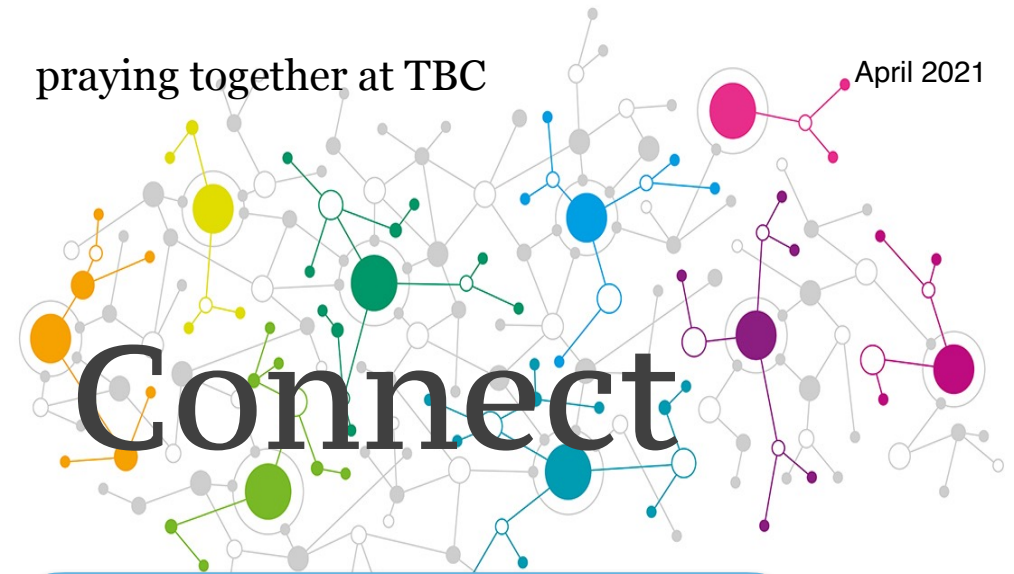


Please pray for those attending our weekly online ALPHA sessions.

following the way of 
*loving God, one another
and the world*

praying together at TBC

April 2021



TBC's Frontline Missionaries - Financial Sector



I'm Allister Duncan, and I and my wife Julie moved to Thornbury, from London, in December 2020. Arriving in Lockdown has made it harder to get to know our new community, but we have been pleased to link up with TBC online and look forward to meeting you all! I am recently retired having had a varied working life. Most of the roles I have filled have been finance related. I have worked as an Accountant, a Finance Director and other roles in industry, charities, Local Authorities, a

School Academy and even a spell with the Salvation Army! In all of that I have learned that the world of finance can be rewarding but challenging for a Christian. Those in finance can feel the pressure generated by the need to 'get the job done', the need to meet growing demands and the need to balance the books and be fiscally responsible. I have had jobs where I have been pressured to take morally dubious short-cuts to achieve these goals, and maintaining integrity has, sometimes, been personally costly.

Please pray for those in the financial sector:

- To manage the pressure that can be generated by the tension between managing sound finances and organisational expectations around service delivery.
- To maintain integrity when under the pressure to adopt dubious practices.

Community Mission

Coffee Shop: Last summer we managed to hold a few sessions in the church garden for families who used to come to Coffee Shop, one family at a time. In the autumn we moved inside with families in bubbles of six divided by fencing. It wasn't Coffee Shop as anyone knew it – no coffee or tea cakes, no cuddles with children, no comforting hugs for parents. For some babies it was the first time they had sat on the floor with another child.

Please Pray:

- Wisdom as to when and how to re-open safely
- The Facebook page, that it may be a useful point of contact and support
- The many families with whom we have previously had contact
- Families who have moved into the area and are struggling to make friends
- New parents who have yet to meet other parents
- Hev as she continues to find ways to interact with the Coffee Shop families despite having not met many of them in person
- Volunteers to come forward to rebuild the Coffee Shop team

Local & UK Mission

Myrtle Lawrence: I'm working in Bristol and the wider area, with people who don't usually or easily connect with church. My focus is on Healing, Worship and Creativity. I work with a team in Bristol Healing Rooms, and a Creatives group, as well other strands of the work, (pastorally and strategically).

It has been a very fruitful season. We have seen healings of all kinds, on a weekly basis: with New Agers, those who have come back to God, or found God through lockdown, (and who've found us through the website BHRs). And we've given weekly support to people in trauma, mental health, and understanding God, situations.

With the Creatives group, many have found healing and release through stepping into new gifts in a safe environment (mainly on zoom, but some outside 1-1 meetings). This group is rapidly growing, and has been an eye-opener as to the power of creativity in connecting with others in the Kingdom of God, and in healing of mental health. Several in the group have been hospitalised previously for their issues, and there are many great testimonies over the past six months.

World Mission

Jews for Jesus. Our friends Stephen and Deborah Pacht have now left working with Jews for Jesus but still continue the work of reaching out with the gospel to the many Jewish contacts they have in Switzerland and across Europe. Although these are difficult times as Stephen says "one thing that has continued these last six months, and which COVID has not restricted, is our contact with Jewish people locally".



Read stories of Jewish people coming to find faith in their Messiah here:
<https://jewsforjesus.org/our-stories>

Please pray for:

- the salvation of these dear Jewish friends ("Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they be saved" Romans 10:1).

Children & Youth

Please pray for:

- All Children in Bubbles, Splash and X Stream as they continue to meet with parents as part of the Families Ministry and engage on-line.
- Those in X Stream Club, Ignite, Ignite Club, SNG, Basement and Attic Cafe as they follow the Road map and seek to move from on-line to face to face.
- All staff in all schools as students start a new term in school and cope with catching up and COVID arrangements.
- Us, as a church, as we seek Children and Youth Team Leaders for the future

Talking of Jesus

What could you say? Maybe you don't feel you could explain the full Gospel to people, but what COULD you say?

I'll pray for you?

I only cope because of my faith?

I've been supported by my friends at church?

THINK ABOUT:

Rather than feeling guilty about what you CanNOT say, pray for opportunities to say what you CAN. Take a small step and see what God opens up.