

## Healing and Care

### Please pray for:

- Heather & Day Staley as they mourn the loss of Heather's Mum.
- Nick & Tif Strode as they mourn the loss of Kathryn.
- Church families under pressure and dealing with illness.
- Malcolm Read and his wife Beryl.
- Graham and Connie Ogbourne
- Dorothy Wagstaff.
- Ruth Collett (cataract op).
- 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.*



If you have concerns about anyone's wellbeing, please check on them if you are able, and/or please contact Paul Ferguson.  
Paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

## World Events

### Pray for Afghanistan

O God of mercy and of peace,  
We hold before you the peoples of Afghanistan.

Be living bread to those who are hungry each day.

Be healing and wholeness to those who have no access to health care amidst the ravages of pandemic.

Be their true home to all who have been displaced.

Be open arms of loving acceptance to those who fear because of their gender, ethnicity, religious or political views.

Be peace to those engaged in armed conflict and those who live within its shadow.

Turn our hearts and minds to your ways of just and gentle peace;  
Open our eyes to see you in all acts of compassionate care;

Strengthen our hearts to step out in solidarity with your suffering people and

Hold us all in your unfailing love.

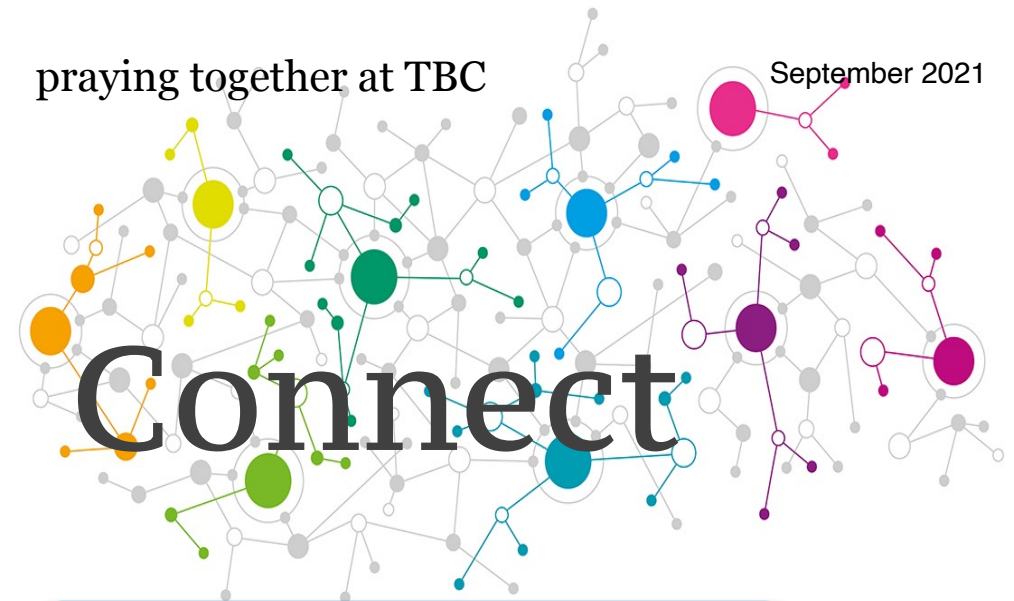
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who emptied himself of all but love in order to bring life in all its fullness.

Amen

*This prayer was written by Ramani Leathard, Christian Aid's Head of Region for South East Asia and Afghanistan.*

## praying together at TBC

September 2021



### TBC's Frontline Mission: Education & Childcare



Simon Ashley

We all know that Covid has caused havoc and continues to leave a shadow over children, many of whom have fallen behind academically and socially due to lockdown or shielding. It has also exhausted school leaders, teachers and support staff. We desperately need a period of stability and consolidation; for energy to be renewed and routines re-established.

I used to teach Design & Technology in secondary schools before taking a 5-year break working in catering design. During furlough I prepared to return to teaching by retraining in Secondary maths and after redundancy, I worked for the National Tutoring Programme. This month I start a new job as a higher-level teaching assistant for Secondary maths in Bristol.

As a Christian, it's especially important that I maintain a measured, calm and kind temperament in all situations and if asked, to be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in me (1 Pet 3:15).

You can help school workers on the frontline!

- Please pray for God's enabling and protection for the children and staff.
- Pray for sufficient resources in staffing, accommodation and equipment.
- Pray for our faith and trust in Jesus to make us more than conquerors in the face of multiple and complex challenges (Rom 8:37).

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following the way of



loving God, one another  
and the world

## Community Mission

The Families Ministry has been very active throughout the months of Covid through Facebook, Zoom and outdoor gatherings. We've also managed some sessions of Two by Two and Coffee Shop in the building. We're now looking forward to doing more of this from September.

### Please pray for:

- open ears and hearts of parents, grandparents and carers to Jesus.
- opportunities and the courage for all the team to share the love and good news of Jesus with the community families
- wisdom to know when, what and how to open and develop the work.
- safety and protection for all who participate and help.
- Hev's health and strength as she heads up the work which has been so hampered by Covid since she started and gets to know the needs of more families in the community.
- the mental health of parents and children who have lost so much over these months, particularly in support and socialisation.
- Forest Church, that it will continue to attract church and community families to worship Jesus together and experience more of him.

## Local & UK Mission

The Julian Trust Nightshelter for the homeless has been running in Bristol for over 25 years but has been forced to close since the beginning of the first lockdown. Over the past 14 months or so the number of people now living on the streets has risen dramatically. During the lockdowns many were housed in hotels for some time and many have been found accommodation but now the numbers of homeless are rising.

As yet the shelter is still waiting to obtain permission from the council to re-open.

For the last few weeks guests have been able to come in during the evening just for a shower and some sandwiches and also bring in their washing. The numbers are steadily increasing for this service, it began with about 20 guests and is now about 40 plus. This happens during weekday evenings.

### Prayer Points:

- Please pray for those who are homeless, for whatever reason, and pray for the opening of the shelter to happen soon. It is often a stepping stone for helping to get people back to some sort of normality.

## World Mission

Rock of Ages Prison Ministry – Constanta Romania: Mircea and Ronela Cristian report that there is now some easing of Covid restriction in Romania but that most of their engagement with the prisoners remains online where there have also been opportunities in new prisons.

Meanwhile the Bible study correspondence program continues to develop – over the summer 70 new students have enrolled, four have received Jesus in their heart and total students is now 185. And at Easter Rock of Ages provided a New Testament, a letter and some traditional Romanian bread to 3,465 prisoners using the bread as means to talk about the bread of life.

### Please pray that:

- That online engagement continues to reach new prisoners
- That more prisoners on the Bible Correspondence course will come to faith.
- For the ongoing battle with bureaucracy making it difficult to work in the prisons.
- For the army of Romanian volunteers that makes the prison ministry possible.
- For health and strength for Mircea and Ronela as they lead the ministry.

*TBC supports Rock of Ages via Transform Europe Now (TEN)*

## Children & Youth

### Please pray for:

- Members of our Ignite and Ignite Club groups (school years 7-9) on their weekend residential with Mike and Kirsteen in Wales on 24th - 26th September, that it will be a blessed time as they grow together as a group with Jesus.
- The Children's Ministry as it restarts in September for the first time since March 2020.
- Young people who are changing schools and changing groups at TBC, that they would transition well knowing that Jesus is with them.



- Pray for Mike Levy as he stands down this month from being our Children's and Youth Pastor. Mike has done an outstanding job of developing and organising our work with children and young people, and his love for them, and his concern to see them develop 'a faith that lasts' has shone through. Thanks Mike!