



## TBC's Frontline Missionaries - Administrators

Most of you already know me but for those who don't, my name is Mark Vincer and I am the Church Centre Manager. One of my main roles is the administration of the church, enabling others to serve as effortlessly as possible.



Administration is not something that immediately springs to people's minds when thinking of Christian service but, much like playing an instrument, it becomes noticeable when done wrong. It's about helping the church by simplifying and streamlining, making sure that what is needed is provided and, where possible, anticipating those needs. The devil is in the details as they say and it's my job to root him out!

I think it's important to realise that you can work for God in everything that you do. The simplest job can have the biggest impact.

As I am the 'front of house' for a wide range of visitors to the church building, it's important to be a smiling face. I would like to think I am someone that anyone feels they can go to for assistance. Jesus had an open-door policy: he will always clear his calendar for us, and I try to do the same!

When praying for those in administration, please pray for patience and serenity, that we'd keep level heads and stay focused as we move through the small print and the big issues.

## Local & UK Mission

Beloved is a Bristol-based Christian charity that provides practical and emotional support to women working in city-centre massage parlours and brothels. Practical support includes counselling, assistance with accessing and understanding finance and housing benefits and rights, provision of healthcare support, CV and job-application sessions, and multi-agency signposting. Beloved also does regular parlour outreach visits and offers emotional and prayer support via face-to-face and phone.

Beloved's aims for the women include reducing isolation and loneliness, improving mental health, providing economic empowerment, reducing barriers to exiting current work, improving personal safety, and increasing sense of wellbeing, self-worth, belonging and friendship

### **Please pray for:**

- That God would continue to bless the work of Beloved.
- That women would continue to reach out for support when they need it.
- Access to the parlours that we are currently prevented from going into.
- Financial provision.
- A societal shift away from distorted attitudes towards sex.
- Viable opportunities for women to exit.
- The life transforming work of the gospel and for hearts ready to hear it.

## World Mission

Mission partners Mircea & Ronela oversee the Rock of Ages prison ministry in Romania. We have fourteen Ukrainians in the office, five families in fact.

It is a challenge to have them because they have a range of medical and practical help needs. But we pray to be able to see and to know our God through God's love and care for them.

Concerning the ministry, the pandemic time revealed a great reality, Christians are very focused on themselves and less and less on serving God and serving others and proclaiming the Gospel. We reopened most of the prisons, but the numbers of volunteers involved is much smaller.

### **Please pray for:**

- To be able to go to prison with increasing travel costs. The Bible study must be extended but the cost doubled from the beginning of this year. We could not travel to the churches in the last 2 years.
- A reconnection of Christians with the mission fields.
- A time for encouraging and bringing the coordinators together.
- Winter provisions for prisoners families and for Ukrainians. This will be a hard year with the cost of living.
- Our health.

## World Mission

We are pleased that after an absence of two summers due to COVID the mission with our link church in Transylvania is back this year, between 29 July and 6 August. We are always led by our link church and join in with their mission, working together. This year we will be taking part in Church services in the main town of SzekelyUdvarhely and the village of St Martins on the Sunday but for most of the week we will be leading morning sessions for Children on the topic of "God's Big Story" at a camp in the Transylvania mountainside, and in the afternoon supporting our friends in their activities. Mike (Levy) and Mark (Dale) will be joined on team by four TBC young people - Ben Colwill, Zoe Bonnett, Liberty Lessiter and Bethan Jenkinson, and we would all value your prayers:

- For us as a team as our preparations have been short, that we go with an open heart and a trust in God and that we will grow in our experience of him.
- For our travel, particularly that our flights will take place as planned and that our time at the airport will be smooth.
- Particularly pray for the children who will be in camp, that they will draw close to God in spirit and in heart.

## Families @ TBC

We've had a busy and blessed term and thank God for the families that we've spent time with.

Please pray for our Monday Mums Bible Study as we take our summer break from meeting together. We thank God for our growth together and ask that they receive wisdom, patience, and strength during these school holidays. Please pray that they will find opportunity to encounter Jesus & particularly to engage with the LifeWorks daily prayer. Praise God that some of them are exploring Baptism now!

As Family Café pauses over the summer we will be hosting 'Stay & Play' sessions for families with children under ten.

### **Please pray:**

- That our regular families will find comfort in some continuity and through the theme of 'Taste & see that the Lord is good' we will share the goodness of God with those who join us.
- For our lovely families that have 'graduated' from Two by Two, that the seeds that have been sown in their lives will be watered & nourished so that their knowledge of God's love for them will grow into a relationship with Him.
- For our wonderful team of Volunteers and their much-earned rest, that they return in September refreshed and excited to see God at work through them again in our ministry.

## Healing & Comfort

### Please pray for:

- All those affected by the war in Ukraine.
- All those known to us who are unwell with Covid.
- All those families who have arrived here from the Ukraine as well as the hosts who will support them.
- Pastor Milen's wife Irena and recovery from her surgery.
- The family of Angela De Fraine.
- The family of Sally Quilter.
- John Harris who has cancer and is very poorly.
- Dawn, Carol Connolly's sister.
- Cher, now at home on dialysis.
- David Phipps.
- Ruth Collett.
- Wendy Titterton.
- Gloria Hammond.

*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 are concerned about someone who needs care or support, contact Paul Ferguson -  
paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk



## World Events

- Sri Lanka is in political and economic turmoil. It's having a huge impact on Christians. Pray for the many believers and pastors in rural areas are struggling to provide for their families.
- Pray for the safe passage of grain from Ukraine, to help alleviate the looming food crisis, as it affects especially the poorest parts of the world.
- Pray that the Pope's 'tour of penance' for the abuse of indigenous people in Canada, brings healing and reconciliation.
- Pray for the street children of Haiti taking refuge in a school in Port-au-Prince after escaping gang violence that killed some 400 people and destroyed hundreds of homes this month.

## Renewal

In this holiday season, please pray for physical, mental and spiritual renewal for:

- Our staff team at TBC. (Paul, David, Mike B, Angela, Charlotte, Hev, Leigh, Mark, Heather & Josh).
- All those who lead or minister in our church and community activities.

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following the way of Jesus

loving God, one another  
and the world

