



TBC's Frontline Missionaries

Hi, my name is Mark Baker and together with my wife Tammy, we teach English in a local school here in Malaysia.

As with any classroom, young people come in from many situations. Whether from a good rest at home and therefore excited to learn. A rushed arrival, and tired from not enough sleep. A heated engagement with their parents, siblings, or friends, etc. And whilst our role is to teach the allotted part of the curriculum that day, we are teaching these young people with all their challenges, emotions, etc.



As a follower of Jesus, this is a great opportunity to lean into God, to hear what He is saying and be led by Him. This is a lot easier having had quality time with the Lord. Being filled with His Spirit, assured of His love, declaring the truth of His word over our lives. It is from this fullness that we can overflow to the students we engage with.

Of course, this works in good and tough times. When students are hungry, and when they have no desire to learn whatsoever. When a student comes in full of conversation or when they drag their feet and have no desire to engage! God is always present, in us and through us to our students!

Please pray:

- For a continued close walk with the Lord.
- For us to be able to receive from the Lord first so we can overflow this 'infilling' to our students.
- For His peace and patience with ourselves and our students.

TBC Mission Projects

The festive season is upon us, and we would welcome your prayers as we plan the upcoming Christmas services. Please also pray for those who will hopefully be joining us!

Please pray for:

- Sunday 17th December - 10.30am:
Our nativity service for all the family with a real donkey here at TBC! If you would like to take part in the story, you can come dressed as a character from the nativity or you can grab a costume on arrival! Coffee, mince pies and donkey rides will be served after the service. This is an event to encourage our community to consider the real meaning of Christmas and we would encourage all the church family who come to offer a big welcome to those from the community who attend.
- Christmas Eve Carol Service - 6pm
Our traditional service of readings and carols.
- Christmas Day Service - 10am
Our all-age celebration of the birth of Jesus.
- New Year's Eve - 10.30am

Local/UK Partners

Paul is currently an Army Chaplain serving with 22 Engineer Regiment and 26 Engineer Regiment in Tidworth. Alongside offering the services of the Church (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc) Army Chaplains provide spiritual and pastoral support to those who serve, and their families, regardless of faith, at home and on operations. They teach military ethics to unit personnel and provide an ethical and moral 'voice of conscience' to the Chain of Command.

Please pray for:

- I moved to Tidworth (Salisbury) in February 2023 after being offered a two year overage extension. Normally, as Chaplains, we retire at 60 but the extension would allow me to serve until I am 62. This move has, once again, meant that Michelle and I live apart as she has remained in our cottage in the Forest of Dean.
- My parish of almost 1200 soldiers and their families
- Increasing instability throughout the world adding undue pressure, anxiety and stress on military personnel and their families.
- For soldiers still carrying the mental and physical wounds from the operations of yesteryear as I work with them.
- I am now, prayerfully considering my future and currently expecting to resign my commission at some point next year. As always, looking to God and seeking his direction...

SAT-7 is a Christian media ministry. Broadcasting on satellite television, on-demand and social media in Arabic, Farsi and Turkish to millions of people in the Middle East & North Africa. Please hold the region and especially the scattered churches and isolated Christians in your prayers.

Please pray for:

- All those grieving, injured, and suffering hardship because of the Holy Land conflict. Pray for the Lord's comfort, healing, provision and for peace.
- Viewers of New Identity and Insiders, SAT-7's Farsi language programmes that explore topics relating to violence against women, human rights and justice from a biblical viewpoint. Pray that the programmes provide encouragement and support and that viewers in Iran and Afghanistan will experience God's love.
- SAT-7's Persian discipleship programmes, that they would inspire the faith of oppressed and isolated believers. Pray that through SAT-7's theological training material Christian leaders are supported in the growth of the underground Church in the region.
- Wisdom for SAT-7 production and viewer support teams as they continue to make God's love visible in the Middle East.

Over this past year our 2 outreach youth groups (Basement and Attic) have been a great place to welcome in many young people in the local community. We had a great 'light party' in early November, which saw these groups come along for an evening of fun, food and fireworks, plus lots of dancing, and an opportunity for us to share the 'light' in the darkness. Our Sunday discipleship groups have become a beautiful space for reflections, hearing God's voice and growing together. More recently it has been amazing to see our youth serving in various areas of the church community within the worship space, kids teams and tech team! Plus they've started their own youth band night, watch this space...

Prayer Points:

- Thank God for all he has been doing within relationships and conversations in Attic and Basement, pray for increased opportunities and openness to hear about God.
- Thank God for all those who serve on our youth teams! In particular pray for Jason Clark who has taken on the leading of Basement youth club, that he senses God's lead, connects with the young people, and for strength and energy to lead the group!
- Pray for the young people who serve in many areas of the Church, pray that they continue to grow in their giftings and confidence from God. Praise God for such inspiring young people!

Healing & Comfort

Please pray for:

- All those affected by the war in Ukraine
- For the conflict in Gaza, that peace would reign
- 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
- Baby Phoebe and recovery from her heart surgery, now recovering at home
- For the family of Cher
- The Ashleys
- Graham Ogborne
- David Phipps
- Dave Finney
- Ruth Collett
- Maria Grey
- Micky Flight
- Carol Connolly
- Stephanie Ruse and her family

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

Please pray for:

- The tensions between North and South Korea.
- The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia.
- Those families and individuals struggling with the cost-of-living crisis.
- The flooding in Brazil.
- The protests in China.

Renewal

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

– Psalm 51:10

And have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

– Colossians 3:10

Allow God's grace to fill your life this season as we celebrate what He gave us and what He provides us with daily. May this time with friends and family renew your souls and build stronger relationships in Christ.

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