

# Connect

## Monday: TBC's Front-line Missionaries - Retired

We are Bill & Carla Peters, married for nearly 45 years and having worked together for over thirty years, now supposedly retired! After selling our business in 2018, we moved to Thornbury from Bristol.



God rested from His work but, fortunately, He has never retired! I believe God redeploys us from one calling to another for the practical advancement of His Kingdom here on earth. Age aside, God will always have work for us to do.

Carla's passion is seeing people restored to wholeness through the power of the Holy Spirit and hitting balls, either with a golf club or a pickleball paddle! The golf course is her frontline.

I have always been passionate about helping people connect what we do every day with God's Kingdom. I still deliver Transformed Working Life teaching for the International Christian Chamber of Commerce and, encouraged by some regional church leaders, I am currently drafting an applied 'whole of life' teaching and coaching programme.

### Prayer Points

- At 85, Caleb said, "give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day", knowing he would have to fight for it (Joshua 14). May those of us labelled 'retirees' have Caleb's spirit – there is always new ground for us to possess with our Heavenly father!

## Tuesday: TBC Community Mission

**Family Café** hopes to continue through the upcoming building project with a few tweaks.

### Prayer points for Family Café:

- We thank God for the relationships, trust & opportunities He has given us with so many families in our community. Please pray that these relationships will grow and present further opportunities to share the love God has for them & has demonstrated through Jesus.
- For families to adapt to having a temporary booking system in order to manage numbers in a reduced space.
- We thank God for our café team and pray for them as they adapt and continue to love, support and serve our families in a season of change.
- This year we are particularly keen to develop opportunities to share the Gospel through events that occur within the regular rhythm of life in Thornbury, please pray that God would guide & provide for this.
- Praise God for the recent baptism of one of our family café Mums on Easter Sunday. Her testimony of how God has completely changed and saved her life has been so wonderful to be part of and it all started at family café!

## Wednesday: Local/UK Partners

My name is **Myrtle Lawrence**, I work with **Bristol Healing Rooms**, and the growing and wider linked community, of Church Without Walls. We serve Bristol, and the surrounding areas, in the area of healing, in all its forms. Jesus led, Holy Spirit directed, doing what Jesus taught us to do.

Prayers for protection and cover would be great, as we go into areas of darkness, and minister to people in very 'dark places'.

We've recently instigated 'twice daily' prayer sessions over zoom, and hope to start weekly bible studies, we also have a bi-monthly mentoring group for team.

### Prayer points for Bristol Healing Rooms:

- Many of our team are travelling to other countries to minister from BHRs, in this season. Prayers for wisdom for what invites to accept, for protection and finance.
- Prayers for recent new Christians, people recently healed and delivered from extreme issues, street outreach and healing, and local Church communities that we connect with.
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- People recently healed and delivered from extreme issues.
- Street outreach and healing.
- Local Church communities that we connect with.

The Bridge Trust are very grateful for the continued support provided by TBC. Currently, money from TBC helps support health care workers who work in the slums of Delhi in India. As well as working in India, Bridge also works in Zambia and supports schools, orphans, employment and skills training, sanitation and water projects as well as providing direct support for church leaders across both countries.

### Prayer points for The Bridge Trust:

- The health workers in Delhi and their work with vulnerable people in the slums.
- The church leaders in India who live with the threat of persecution.
- The workers and volunteers of The Bridge Trust Ltd as they plan their work across India and Zambia.



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This past term, **the children in the Sunday groups** have been learning more about God's kingdom through the parables that Jesus taught his disciples. Each week we have been seeing more and more new families walk through the doors and our children's groups are growing steadily. We give thanks to God that he is raising up the next generation of worshippers!

### Prayer points for the Children's Work:

- We need more helpers in the creche. As there are so many younger children/babies joining us on a Sunday, and because the creche room is so small it is important to have helpers so that all the parents don't have to stay as well!
- The building work and how that will affect the children's groups.
- Thanks for those who have stepped up to help with the other two groups on a Sunday morning.

## Saturday: Global Needs

### Pray particularly this month for:

- Cameroon: Pray for the Christian inhabitants of Lambram, a small village near the Nigerian border in the Far North of Cameroon. On the night of Friday 15 March, Boko Haram militants stormed Lambram, and killed many of its inhabitants.
- India: Pray for the Christians in shock after a 200-strong mob attacked their church in Telangana State, India during March. Over 20 were injured.
- Continue to pray for Gaza, Ukraine and the many other places of conflict around the world.

Find more up-to-date prayer items for Christians suffering for their faith in the 'Latest News' section of the Open Doors website ([opendoorsuk.org](http://opendoorsuk.org)).

### Healing & Comfort

Please use the weekly updated list of prayer needs sent out in the weekly notice sheet.

If you are concerned about someone who needs care or support, contact Paul Ferguson -  
[paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk](mailto:paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk)

## Sunday: Renewal

### Mercy & Grace are Mine

“Perhaps you have difficulty receiving the rich mercy of God because of what you’ve done to torpedo your own life: maybe one big stupid decision or ten thousand little ones. Do you know what Jesus does to those who squander his mercy? He pours out more mercy. God is rich in mercy. That’s the whole point”.  
(from *Gentle and Lowly*, by Dane Ortland).

Through April, dare to believe that God’s grace and mercy outrun your sin every time (Psalm 23:6).

You could use this prayer this month.

*Eternal God, your mercy is endless, and the treasury of your compassion is inexhaustible.*

*Look kindly upon me and increase your mercy in me, that in difficult moments I might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit myself to your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.*  
(USCCB – adapted)

### Is God speaking?

If as you pray through Connect, you sense God speaking to us as a church family, do pass your thoughts to the elders.