

Connect

Monday: Frontline - Ukrainians in Thornbury

When our family arrived in England, the Lord led us to Michael and Wendy Britten, a wonderful couple who opened their home to us. They invited us to join the Baptist church in Thornbury where they worship, and from the very first Sunday we felt at home. We knew this was where God wanted us to be.

Although the church was welcoming, our English was still very limited, and we wanted more spiritual communication in our own language. During the first year of the war in Ukraine, we met many Ukrainians who had also come to the area. We wanted to serve God by reaching out to them — offering friendship, support, and the message of hope in Christ.

With the help of Pastor Paul and the church, we started a small Ukrainian gathering after the Sunday morning service. We share tea, talk, play table tennis or billiards, study the Bible and pray for one another. At first there were around fifteen of us; now usually six to eight come regularly. Some already believe, others are still seeking, but every meeting is an opportunity for God to work in hearts.

We are deeply grateful for the church's kindness and prayers.



Prayer Points:

- That more Ukrainians may come to know Jesus and find peace in Him.
- For an end to the conflict in Ukraine, as well as the conflicts around the world.

Tuesday: TBC Community Mission

Lunch Club is back in full swing after our extended summer break, we have 56 Diners on our books, so unfortunately we again have a waiting list to join us, we have between 38 & 46 every Wednesday, most of the diners stay for the talk on differing topics, recently Angus talked about his adventures flying, another week Helen showing how to keep mobile with fun exercises to have a go at, while sitting.

We have 18 regular volunteers, usually 7 each week preparing, serving & clearing, Mike sets up the area & then re-sets for Café, Stan & Will make sure all runs smooth for the talk, Mel has been a great help booking speakers, so if any of you have any hidden talents or interesting hobbies please get in touch.

Prayer points for Lunch Club:

- That we can share our faith in a practical way that encourages questions.
- For Mel as she finds speakers to talk about their Faith, or interesting topics.
- For friendships between the diners, that may find it difficult to regularly meet with others throughout the week.

Wednesday: Local/UK Partners

The New Start Debt Advice ministry is seeing a steady stream of people whose cases are growing more complex, covering both debt and significant life issues. This suggests we should change our focus from "New Start debt advice" to "New Start life advice."

We've welcomed a new adviser, but we still need more team support. If you're available on a Friday and willing to take notes, listen, and pray during meetings, please speak to Mark Stuart or a church leader.

We've recently helped release several people from their burdens using Debt Relief Orders (DROs), which write off debts that can't be repaid. Even when the problems seem impossible, we serve a God who is more than enough. Like the miracle of the oil in 2 Kings 4, we offer God what we have, trusting Him to provide for our clients.

Prayer points for New Start:

- For wisdom as we transition to "life advice."
- For new volunteers to join the Friday team.
- That those we help will know that God is with them, loves them, and is for them, leading them to faith in Jesus and experiencing the God of miracles.

Thursday: World Mission

Mark, Tammy, Bethany and David Baker were sent out from TBC to Sabah, Malaysia in 1999 to re-pioneer the work of YWAM there. In line with YWAM's vision 'to Know God and Make Him Known' they have worked with children, youth and adults, in discipleship, training, evangelism, primary healthcare, community development English classes, pastoral care, to name but a few.

Prayer points for Mark and Tammy:

- Bethany is now settled and working in Bristol, David is settling and working in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Mark & Tammy are preparing for a permanent move back to the UK in Feb 2026.
- In this place of transition, they are both reaching out, praying with, discipling, not only their neighbours, but, students at the local polytechnic, members of their home church in their city, alumni that they have trained and are now raising their own families and working in various locations.
- David to settle well in his new job, home, etc.
- Wisdom and peace as Mark & Tammy balance ministry in the present and preparation for their future move.

Friday: Children @TBC

A new academic year has seen us welcome new families to Family Cafe, Joy Tots and Two by Two.

We thank God for the opportunity to love, support and witness to the many families that visit us here at TBC.

Prayer points for Family Work:

- For those parents who are very new in their faith, that they will grow and find the 'seed sown in good soil.'
- For the many families navigating challenges in their relationships, finances or mental health. May they know that Jesus' grace is sufficient for them and would they choose to receive His grace in these trying times.
- For our teams to continue to be the hands, ears and eyes of Jesus as we minister within the families ministry.
- For the regular Family Cafe team: Sally H, sally O, Mike, Alison, Mel, Ros, John, Ruth, Brenda, Julie, Charles, John M, Sheila, Sue, Helen, Catherine.
- For families in the run up to Christmas with the financial pressures but also the opportunity we have to share Gods love as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Saturday: Persecuted Church

Arise Africa campaign

Millions of Christians face violent persecution for their faith in sub-Saharan Africa. According to Open Doors World Watch List research, over 90% of Christians killed for their faith last year were in sub-Saharan Africa.

In response, the African church is calling for their brothers and sisters around the world to join them in the Arise Africa campaign.

Please join with our church family in sub-Saharan Africa, asking God to stop the violence and start the healing.

Pastor Soré remains confident in Jesus. "I do believe that we are displaced, but Jesus is not and will never be displaced from our lives," he says. "He is always with us."

To find out more and to sign the petition online go to www.opendoorsuk.org

Healing and 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

Sunday: Renewal

A Prayer for Growing in Grace (2 Peter 3:18)

Father, I come asking You to help me
grow in grace.

Teach me to walk in the footsteps of
Christ and

Let your Spirit shape my thoughts,
soften my words, and purify my actions.

Where pride creeps in, sow humility.

Where judgment rises up,
plant compassion.

Where fear limits me, let your perfect
love cast it out.

As I receive grace, may I also give it.
Help me to forgive as I have been
forgiven,

to serve without seeking reward,
and to love without expecting return.

When I stumble, remind me that your
grace is sufficient.

When I grow weary, be my strength.

In Jesus' name I pray,
Amen.