

Connect

Monday: Volunteers

Hello, we are Ruth and Bruce Cadenhead. We have been happily married for the past 42 years and are still each other's best friend. Bruce will be 70 this year and I'm not far behind. We have two lovely sons in their thirties, who we pray will one day love Jesus as we do. This is an ongoing front line. We are now retired from science teaching but still work three days a week at Asda in Quedgeley, another front line.



We were drawn to TBC in the early 2000s as a thriving church where children were welcomed and where modern music and a firm belief in Jesus were the norm. We both play in the worship group, and I sing in a Thornbury choir. I organise and maintain the rota online for Thornbury Food Bank and make scones for the Seniors' Teas. Bruce and I work with Sue Dunn raising money for charity with the Christmas Craft Fair and now with the Plant and Craft Fair in May (9th). We both have a long-standing heart for supporting persecuted Christians worldwide and Bruce now runs a monthly prayer group for Open Doors.

So, we are conscious of the need for prayer in all these activities and for asking God to help us learn how to act and think as he would.

Prayer points:

- For our words and actions to consistently show the love of God, whether to family, friend, work colleague or to someone known only as a name online.
- For wisdom in decision-making, particularly when those decisions affect other people.
- For integrity as we work for the Lord in a challenging workplace.
- For boldness and persistence in prayer and for courage to share the good news of Jesus.

Tuesday: TBC Community Mission

Basement (YR6-9) and (YR10-13) are the two youth clubs we run every Tuesday and Friday evening! Both youth clubs involve plenty of time for the young people to hang out with their friends, play games, eat sweets and let off a bit of steam through group activities each week.

These groups are predominantly made up of young people that don't come along to church, and our aim is to create a safe space for them to find a friendly face and a listening ear and for us to be able to share the gospel with them through our words and actions.

Prayer points for the Youth Clubs:

- For the brilliant teams who run both of the youth clubs. Pray they get a sense of where God is leading throughout the planning and running of the evenings and for Spirit-led conversations with the young people.
- For all the young people who attend, particularly pray for protection and peace for those struggling with their mental health through the challenging years of teenage life and for those with difficult home situations.
- Thank God for the great conversations we've had with some of the young people over the past year
- Pray for an increased sense of curiosity and hunger amongst them.

Wednesday: Local/UK Partners

Bridges Hull is a small Christian charity in Bransholme; a deprived area in Hull. We work mostly with 10 –16 year olds but also up to age 25 with young people with SEND. During the week we hold youth clubs for three different age groups with games, art and craft and dance. The staff also see children/parents 1:1 to support with a range of issues.

We have just said a sad goodbye to a youth support worker who has been with us for nine years. We are now recruiting for a new youth worker who is preferably a Christian.

We also have funding, and are recruiting, for a Christian worker who would help lead a Christian group on a Sunday or another day and also help run "nurture groups" to support the more vulnerable children.

Prayer points for Bridges Hull:

- Give praise to the Lord for additional carers to look after Tiffany's elderly father who is living with them. Pray for health and strength for Nik and Tiff as they are motivated and give this freed up time to the work.

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.

Bethany is now settled and working in Bristol, David is settling and working in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Mark & Tammy are now back in the UK and re-engaging with life in Thornbury!

They were both in the final weeks in Sabah 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.

Prayer points for the Bakers:

- David to settle well in his new job, home, etc.
- Wisdom and peace as Mark & Tammy make the transition to life in the UK.

Friday: Youth @TBC

The current TBC youth provision sees us connect with many local young people within our community during the week. On a Sunday we run discipleship groups in the morning and evening for our younger (YR 6-10) and older (YR10-13) youth. Over the past year the Sunday morning group (Wonder) has seen a growth in friendships and faith in God as we have explored the word of God and youth-specific topics together and in the evenings the older youth (waves & impact) have got stuck into Bible study on the Book of Acts and have enjoyed worshipping together as a youth band!

Prayer points for the Youth Ministry:

- Thank God for all he has been doing within Attic and Basement.
- Pray for increased opportunities to share faith.
- Pray that the discipleship groups would continue to be spaces for faith to grow and that God's word would build a solid foundation in their lives.
- Pray for wisdom for those involved in planning the youth activities as we pray through the changes approaching at the end of this academic year.
- Thank God for all those who have stepped in as maternity cover over the past year and for all the time and energy they have poured into the youth ministry. Pray a blessing upon them today!

Saturday: Persecuted Church

Pray for the Persecuted Church

Central Asia

Zaira closed the door of the barn and barricaded it. Alone, she knelt down and prayed: "Jesus, come into my heart. I am a sinner. Forgive my sins."

With that prayer, years of searching ended; with that prayer, years of persecution began.

She was beaten several times, including when she was pregnant.

"You need to be bold, stand firm in your faith, and be courageous," she shares. "You have to go with two weapons: prayer and the Word."

Zaira asks us to pray that God would give her wisdom to find ways to connect with seekers and bring them to Him.

For the most up to date information on the suffering church look at the "Latest News" section of the Open Doors Website (www.opendoorsuk.org)

Sunday: Renewal

As we move towards Easter, reflect on these verses that speak of the significance of the Cross.

... but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8 ESV)

Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by his wounds that you have been healed.

(1 Peter 2:24 GNB)



What do they say about God?

What do they say about you?

How do you feel prompted to respond?

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

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