"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure."

1 John 3:1-3

Please remember in your prayers those, across the Association, who are unwell or in need:

- Charlotte Bolzan (wife of Minister in Training, Joao Bolzan, at Chiddingfold Baptist Church) - Charlotte has ME. Please pray for Charlotte, for her healing, and for strength & energy for each day and task.
- **Revd Allan Finnegan** (Minister at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Liverpool and comedian) - a number of you will remember Allan from when he came to entertain us at our Ministers' Conference, a few years back; others will have seen him on Britain's Got Talent) - please pray for Allan and his family, as Allan is seriously ill with Covid-19.
- Revd Andrew Flack (retired) - Andrew has been diagnosed with prostate cancer with some suspicious areas in the ribs. He began hormone treatment on tablets and is now moving on to a course of regular injections. Treatment to be reviewed in 4-6 weeks following further tests. Please pray for Andrew, for God's healing touch.
- Alison Hills (wife of Revd Derek Hills) - please pray for Alison and family, Revd Derek Hills (previously Senior Minister at Tonbridge Baptist Church) passed away last week. Pray for them all at this difficult time.
- Reg Hughes (former President and Chair of the Kent Baptist Association, and a member of Gillingham Baptist Church) - Please pray for Reg, he has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and surgery is not an option.
- Revd Bill Miles (retired) - Please continue to pray for a successful and full recovery from his recent heart surgery.
• Revd Ian Phillips (Minister at Crawley Baptist Church) - update - Ian has now completed his period of isolation, following his hospitalisation from Covid-10. Please continue to pray for his full recovery. They have requested no telephone calls - but cards would be appreciated instead.

• Revd Sandra Platford (Minister at Godalming Baptist Church) - please continue to pray for Sandra's health, for strength and healing for her.

• Revd Christopher & Ruth Russell (Minister, and wife, at Mytchett Baptist Church) - Chris is responding well to chemotherapy and immunotherapy for the lymphatic cancer, and is gaining strength and looking well. Ruth's speech is improving and she is learning to walk again, although progress is slow, but encouraging (Ruth suffered a stroke last year). Please pray for them both

• Revd Bob & Pam Younger (retired) - Bob and Pam have moved into a nursing & residential home, as Pam needed extra help for looking after Bob (who has mixed dementia), and with her own health - please remember them both in your prayers.

This past week, we have heard of a number of Ministers who have tested positive with Covid-19 - please pray for them all. Pray for all of our members who have been personally affected by the Covid-19 virus (we only list by name those who have given their permission, so there are many who are not on the above list); those newly diagnosed and in fear of whether the symptoms will worsen, those struggling to cope with the symptoms (both at home, and those in hospital), those who have suffered from it (and are still recovering), those who have loved ones currently battling the virus, and those who have lost loved ones to the pandemic. Pray for our healthcare and prison chaplains - the pandemic is taking a hard toll on them. Pray for their health, for strength of body and of spirit, for rest and peace - and that Jesus will shine through them, to all they minister to.

If you would like your name added to the prayer list, please email me admin@seba-baptist.org.uk

(Please note, the prayer list is in alphabetical order, and any new requests or updates are highlighted)

SEBA Prayers for Thursday 11 February:

We are asking everyone who can, to join with us in spirit, praying together at 9.30am tomorrow (we do appreciate this won’t work for everyone, for those who cannot, please join your prayers with ours at a time convenient to you)

Prayer Focus: so many leaders within SEBA (especially those in pastoral leadership, but others too) are struggling with ill-health & sickness. Let us pray that in God's mercy there will be an outpouring of healing, good health & protection on all those in leadership in our churches.

Church of the Week: Hawkinge Baptist Church [South Kent Network] - HBC is also our Home Mission Focus Church of the Month (see SEBA website for more details)
Scripture for the Month: 1 John 3:1-3
"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure."

Prayer for the Week: For those of us struggling with mornings &/or getting out of bed during lockdown, here is John Stott's morning prayer, which he used to say upon waking each morning:

Good morning heavenly Father,
good morning Lord Jesus,
good morning Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father, I worship you as the creator and sustainer of the universe.
Lord Jesus, I worship you, Savior and Lord of the world.
Holy Spirit, I worship you, sanctifier of the people of God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father, I pray that I may live this day in your presence and please you more and more.

Lord Jesus, I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you.

Holy Spirit, I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God, have mercy upon me. Amen.

Prayers for today

BMS World Mission:
Thank God for BMS volunteer Ann Bothomley as she continues to encourage emerging medical leaders at a large Christian hospital in south India. Pray especially for Ann’s safety and good health. (The BMS World Mission daily prayer guide can be downloaded via this link https://www.bmsworldmission.org/get-involved/pray/prayer-guide/)

The Joint Public Issues Teams:
Today we pray for protesters in Russia. After opposition politician Alexei Navalny was arrested last week, widespread pro-democracy protest has broken out nationally, with many peaceful protesters
arrested. We pray for the preservation of the right to protest globally. #stayandpray

Read more about this issue: https://news.sky.com/story/it-was-the-stuff-of-nightmares-on-moscows-equivalent-of-regent-street-under-russian-christmas-lights-12208092?fbclid=IwAR37Vr6epg06Tv3YaiX21eMz6Mv7Nt58iYKFTHsEpKWRGQI812vwpv6k

Baptist Union prayer diary for week beginning 14 February
(apologies, this was published last week, a week early) Today is Racial Justice Sunday, when we are all encouraged to:

- Remember the importance of racial justice
- Reflect on human diversity and thank God for it
- Respond by working to end injustice, racism and ignorance through prayer
- and action

www.ctbi.org.uk/racialjusticesunday
www.baptist.org.uk/racialjusticeblogs

Copyright © 2021 South Eastern Baptist Association, All rights reserved.