

# Weekly Prayer Diary



'In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.'

Acts 1: 1-3

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

- Revd Andrew Flack (retired) - After exhaustive scanning and testing it has now been confirmed that the prostate cancer has caused the small spots of cancer in the ribs. On the positive side there is nothing in the lymph glands and other major organs. They are now able to target the treatment appropriately. In this case it's an ongoing combination of hormone injections and a course of a type of tablet which has recently shown good results and to be a viable alternative to chemotherapy. Andrew thanks you for your continued prayers.
  - **Ian Birrell** (husband of Anne Birrell, deacon & sole representative of Green Fields Baptist Church, Crawley) - Ian has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and will be having a small operation this week; followed by another procedure in about ten weeks' time. Please pray for Ian and
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Anne, that the cancer was discovered early enough and the treatment will be successful.

- Philip Blaney (Revd Darren Blaney's eldest son) - **update** - Philip, who has schizophrenia, has been told that they have been unable to find him a hospital bed, and so are reinstating his Community Care Order and allowing him to remain in his flat. Please pray that this will work out for him and he will get the support he needs.
- Reg Hughes (former President and Chair of the Kent Baptist Association, and a member of Gillingham Baptist Church) - **update** - Reg starts a course of chemotherapy infusions this Thursday, over at Maidstone. They should continue up until July. Please pray that Reg is able to cope with the treatment; that he doesn't suffer from too many side effects; and that the treatment checks the growth of the pancreatic tumour.
- Revd Bill Miles (retired) - Please continue to pray for a successful and full recovery from his recent heart surgery.
- Revd Christopher & Ruth Russell (Minister, and wife, at Mytchett Baptist Church) - Chris is gaining strength and Ruth has been discharged from hospital; she is at Collingwood Grange nursing home for at least the next 6 weeks, or until Chris is strong enough to help in her day-to-day care.
- Revd Seyan Tills (Minister at Walmer Baptist Church) - **update** - Seyan is now home from hospital, The district nurses are coming in, each day, to administer his diabetic medication (something he was able to manage himself, with tablets, prior to the latest hospital admission) and his GP will be reviewing Seyan situation in the coming weeks; whilst Seyan has a list of symptoms, to look out for, in case there are signs of heart failure again.

Please pray for Seyan and the fellowship at Walmer; especially as all seek God's plans and look to the practicalities, moving forward.

- 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.

Please pray as the restrictions around the pandemic start to be lifted - that this will not result in a further wave of the virus; that people will exercise common-sense and caution; and for the continued protection of our most vulnerable members.

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If you would like your name added to the prayer list, please email me [admin@seba-baptist.org.uk](mailto:admin@seba-baptist.org.uk)

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

We pray for Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family as they mourn the death of Prince Philip.

We pray that they will know the comfort of God, who says 'I will never leave you or forsake you'.

We give thanks for the life of Prince Philip, for the support he gave to the Queen and for all that he brought to our nation.

Baptists Together, 9 April 2021

## SEBA Prayers for Thursday 15 April:

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: This week we all received an email outlining Well-being & Mental Health Resources to help us as Pastors both care for ourselves and for those we lead. Many thanks to the team at SEBA for putting this helpful guide together. Let us pray for:

- all those whose emotional and mental health has suffered through the pandemic
- for those who will struggle to adapt to life as we emerge from lockdown
- that our churches will be safe places of calm and peace for those who are troubled

[A very helpful resource in this area is the book "Slow Down, Show Up and Pray" by Ruth Rice--which features a pioneer project run by a Baptist Church!]

Church of the Week: Battle Baptist Church (East Sussex network)

Scripture for the month:

*'In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach*

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*until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.' Acts 1: 1-3*

Prayer for the Week:

Heavenly Father, loving God, we pray today for those who are confronted by the sadness, ambiguity and confusion of mental illness, and for those upon whom they depend for attention and compassionate care.

Look with mercy on all whose afflictions bring them weakness, distress, confusion or isolation.

Wherever they may be, grant them homes of dignity and peace; give to them understanding friends, family and helpers and the willingness to accept help themselves.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Adapted from a Christian health website based in USA]

## Prayers for today

### BMS World Mission:

Please pray for Felix Manuyama as he promotes sustainability in Nauta (Peru). Pray that he would have wisdom when approaching local communities and maintain good relationships with local leaders

*(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 Brazil. Last week, the country recorded more than 4000 related Covid-related deaths in 24 hours for the first time, as a more contagious variant fuels a surge in cases. God, we pray for the healing which you bring, and comfort for those who are mourning. [#stayandpray](#)

Read more about this issue: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-56657818?fbclid=IwAR2iZ24Yq-mLxCCn7RUXqUOrhkk3QjifSc\\_kexLSZuJDjCGcJzME89eZF84](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-56657818?fbclid=IwAR2iZ24Yq-mLxCCn7RUXqUOrhkk3QjifSc_kexLSZuJDjCGcJzME89eZF84)

## Baptist Union prayer diary for week beginning 18 April

This week we pray for the Ministries Team, who support all forms of recognised and accredited ministry amongst our churches, as well as providing guidance and advice

on ministry-related matters. This has been particularly critical in this time of uncertainty and change.

[www.baptist.org.uk/ministries](http://www.baptist.org.uk/ministries)



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