

Weekly Prayer Diary

3 June 2020



"Do not be anxious about anything,
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Philippians 4:6

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

- Ray Avenell (Treasurer at Strood Gospel Mission Church) - Pray for Ray as he deals with the side-effects of the chemotherapy (for cancer in the bowel, abdomen and chest).
- Charlotte Bolzan (wife of Minister in Training, Joao Bolzan, at Chiddingfold Baptist Church) - Charlotte has ME (the same condition as Liona Platford - mentioned below). Please pray for Charlotte, for her healing, and for strength & energy for each day and task.
- Terry Coates (member of Chiddingfold Baptist Church) - Please pray for successful outcome of ongoing treatment for constipation and Terry's appointment with the specialist on June 16th (Terry had part of his colon removed about 10 years ago).
- Pastor Andy Eyre (Minister in Training at Dormansland Baptist Church) - please pray for Andy, recovering from, what is suspected to be Covid-19 and pneumonia. Pray for his wife Ellie and their children.
- **Beth Fleming** (wife of Revd David Fleming, previous Minister at Frindsbury Baptist Church) - Beth is terminally ill with covid-19 complications, please pray for her, and for David.
- Revd Stephen Keyworth (Faith & Society Team Leader, BUGB) - Please continue to pray for Stephen and his recovery; and for his family.

- Revd David & Cli Meikle (Minister & wife at Portslade Baptist Church) - please pray for them both, Cli had to return to Brazil in January to review her visa and is still there. The department in London, that processes visa applications, is closed due to Covid-19. They would value prayers for patience, for the Lord's favour on the visa application and for His protection over them both whilst they are apart.
- Revd Sandra Platford, Bryan, Aaron and Liona (Minister, and her family, at Godalming Baptist Church) - please continue to pray for Liona's health, for strength and healing; also for Aaron as he awaits a diagnosis for his recent health issues.
- Revd Seyan Tills (Minister at Walmer Baptist Church) - Please keep Seyan, and the Fellowship at Walmer, in your prayers. For Seyan's many, ongoing health issues & requirements; and how to manage them effectively, and safely, during the pandemic.
- Revd Bob Younger (retired) - please pray for Bob, some years ago Bob was diagnosed with mixed dementia (a combination of Alzheimer's and vascular dementia). The condition has advanced with time, and Bob, and his wife Pam, would value your prayer support.

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)

Loving God,

As the sins of systemic racism and police brutality rear their heads once more,
meet us in our anger, sorrow, and frustration.
Guard us from indifference, ignorance and silence.

As Black lives continue to be taken too soon,
and because all were named and loved,
we lift names to you, in remembrance and resolve:

George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Belly Mujinga, Darren Cumberbatch, Olaseni Lewis, Sean Rigg,
Mike Brown, Breonna Taylor,
and so many more.

As righteous anger overflows onto the streets,
we join in with the holy cry of "how long O Lord?"
While we pray for peace, may civility not become the enemy of justice.

We lament that past protest has fallen on deaf ears,
and pray for a world transformed by your love.

We plead, for Black communities: justice, safety, equality.
For those who could choose to look away: repentance, education, solidarity.

Help us to declare in word and deed:
Black Lives Matter.

Amen.

The Joint Public Issues Team

Prayers during the Coronavirus pandemic:

Prayer walking:

Have you considered pray walking where you live?

Walking1Simply praying as you walk and being attentive to God's spirit is a wonderful thing to be doing at any time, but particularly at the moment. Our buildings our closed. We are a church without walls. Unlimited exercise has been permitted. As we move around our communities, we can pray.

Ali Boulton encouraged us in a recent prayer broadcast

(https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/576515/Prayer_Broadcast_Wednesday.aspx) to "pray continually". In doing so, she wondered where our prayers focused.

"Are our prayers being closed down as we find ourselves in smaller spaces at home?" she asked. "Or are we praying, being led by the Spirit, beyond ourselves and beyond our situation?"

Praying as we walk is a wonderful opportunity to pray beyond ourselves and our situation. It enables us to be attentive to where God is moving in the very place where we live.

So we would encourage you to do it! And we are not the only ones. The Evangelical Alliance has produced some helpful and detailed [guidance on prayer walking](#)

The introduction to the guidance states:

In the absence of physical church gatherings, we have an opportunity to revitalise the scattered church. For as long as our church buildings are closed, we can serve those in our communities

through prayer in our everyday comings and goings.

We invite you to embark on regular prayer walks during the lockdown. This will be a time when you are attentive to God's presence in the places you walk, seeing God's heart for the people and challenges around you and responding to His Spirit as you seek to love your neighbours.

If we're able, let's walk, and let's pray.

(from the Baptists Together website)

Baptists Together Prayer Broadcasts:

Don't forget the Baptist Union prayer broadcasts, every Wednesday & Sunday evening, at 7pm.

The latest in the series of Baptists Together Prayer broadcasts will feature Jonathan Vaughan-Davies, Minister at Bethel Baptist Church in Whitchurch, Cardiff. Creator of mission and ministry resources, and YouTube videos introducing people to the Lord's Prayer. Jonathan will be praying alongside General Secretary Lynn Green.

To watch the broadcast (and comment) click this link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JP2wLgEnBu0&feature=youtu.be>

Previous prayer broadcasts can be viewed by going to

https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx

Baptist Union prayer diary for week beginning 7 June:

On Environment Sunday, we pray:

Almighty God,
whose Spirit hovered over the waters
bringing order out of chaos,
and whose love for all living things is everlasting:
help us to live in such a way
that we care for your creation,
marvel at its beauty,
and share its resources;
to the glory of your Son Jesus Christ
through whom and for whom all things were created.

Amen.

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