

Weekly Prayer Diary



He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Acts 1: 7-9

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

- **Ian Birrell** (husband of Anne Birrell, deacon and sole representative of Green Fields Baptist Church, Crawley) - Ian has an appointment next week to determine whether the minor operation he had last month has been successful enough for his main prostate cancer treatment to be carried out in June. Please pray for a good result.
 - Philip Blaney (Revd Darren Blaney's eldest son) - Please pray for Philip, for God's protection over his life, that his new medication will work quickly, and that the medical support he needs will be made available.
 - Reg Hughes (former President and Chair of the Kent Baptist Association, and a member of Gillingham Baptist Church) - Reg has started his course of chemotherapy infusions; they're expected to continue up until July. Please pray that Reg is able to cope with the treatment; that he
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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.
- **Peter Millard** (Elder & Congregation Leader at Rainham Christian Fellowship) - Please pray for Peter, whose wife, Katie, passed away, suddenly, from a heart attack, last Thursday. Pray for their children, Ian and Hannah; and for the congregation at Rainham Christian Fellowship - everyone is devastated by the loss.
- Revd Christopher & Ruth Russell (Minister, and wife, at Mytchett Baptist Church) - **update** - Chris is coping well with the added responsibilities of looking after Ruth and they have been able to decrease additional care to three times a day. Ruth was doing well and managing to walk further each day, however, last Wednesday she had a fall (indoors) and was taken to hospital - it was thought she might have broken her hip but seems maybe a cracked bone. The hospital discovered that Ruth has brittle bones and one leg is shorter than the other - on Saturday she was sent back to Farnham hospital for rehab. Sadly, Ruth's mother (aged ninety-nine and a half) passed away a few weeks ago, which is an added blow to the family.

Chris started his bimonthly chemo on Monday and is doing well. Your prayers for them both are appreciated. Chris is preaching twice a month at Mytchett Baptist Church, an encouragement to both him and the congregation.

- Revd Seyan Tills (Minister at Walmer Baptist Church) - Please continue to pray for Seyan and the fellowship at Walmer; especially as all seek God's plans and look to the practicalities, moving forward.
- Revd Bob Younger (retired) - please pray for Bob (who has mixed dementia) and the wider family.

Please pray as the restrictions around the pandemic are lifted further - 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. Pray for those in areas suffering the Indian Covid variant, with over 2,000 confirmed cases in the UK and cases of the variant being reported in more than 25% of the local authorities in England, this is no longer just a problem for Blackburn, Bolton and Darwen.

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 20 May:

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.*

We do not have the usual prayer focus for the next two weeks; however please join together with us and Baptists worldwide, in praying this week.

Baptist World Alliance - Pray around the World

Please pray for:

- Bangladesh
- Nepal
- Join us also in prayer for the people of Bhutan. Pray for effective missional efforts within this country in which Christianity is not a recognized religion.

For more information on Prayer and Praise for each country listed, please check out https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Baptists-One-in-Prayer---May-16--2021.html?soid=1102288672315&aid=V_v2WqZSLbc

Aid, Relief & Community Development

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a devastating impact across the globe with healthcare infrastructures on the brink of collapse in both India and Brazil. On a recent Baptist World Aid (BWAid) coordination call, it was reported that more than 50 pastors have passed away among our member bodies in India in the last month alone. Working in collaboration with Asia Pacific Baptist Aid (APBAid), the BWA is offering financial support and care for the pastors' families in addition to pledging funds to two Baptist hospitals in northeast India. We are simultaneously pursuing partnerships in Brazil to provide assistance where most needed. Please continue to pray for an end to this pandemic and give as you feel led to support our continued response at this crucial time.

General Secretary's Prayer Circle

As part of our Global Impact Initiative, we invite you to join us this month for the Go

Movement, a united effort to mobilize and equip every believer to witness and reach the world together. We invite you to write down the names of five people who need Jesus, invest time in prayer, and then look for opportunities to share the Gospel with them. Imagine how the world would change if we each reach one for Christ! To access Global Impact Month resources or to sign up to participate, visit BaptistWorld.org/global-impact-month.

Prayer from the Sunrise Office:

*O compassionate Lord,
I would prefer power over the storm,
a secure home,
a life protected from the winds.*

*But help me to live with storms,
shelter with friends,
see my plans broken
but not my life:
rebuilt again and again from the earth.*

(Bangladesh. Dear Life, J. Morley, J. Ward and H. Wild, eds © Christian Aid 1998)

Prayers for today

BMS World Mission:

Please pray for the recruitment of a surgeon at Guinebor II hospital in Chad to share the surgical workload at the hospital.

(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 people claiming benefits who are struggling. A report last week showed that a large number of people claiming benefits have died or come to serious harm since 2012, especially where people have mental health vulnerabilities. God, we pray for adequate support for benefits claimants, both financially and for health concerns. [#stayandpray](#)

Read more about this issue: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-56819727?fbclid=IwAR2QeQiAErROztaRFkeByOpFocZQ8KSKESWKQdtRRH-KgAJQdriT2Kn-nnU>

Baptist Union prayer diary for week beginning 23 May

On this Pentecost Sunday we join in the Thy Kingdom Come prayer:

*Almighty God,
your ascended son has sent us into the world to
preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen*

www.thykingdomcome.global



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