

Week of Prayer 2018

Welcome to our Week of Prayer!

To help you get started, we have some prayer stations set up in the church and I have prepared some prayer points some of which are requests from those involved in the ministries and some of which are suggestions. This is not an exhaustive list, so please don't be constrained by it but pray as the Spirit leads you. You may like to begin by reading a psalm of praise and praising God for all He is and has done for us in Christ. (Some suggestions – Psalm 8, 96, 103, 145, 146.)

Our vision is to be a “gospel-centred church”, aiming to make disciples, reach out to the local community with the love and truth of God and to play our part in taking the gospel to the “ends of the earth”. (Acts 1:8) With this in mind, let's lift the ministries of our church to God in prayer!

LEADERSHIP TEAM AND STAFF

Eddie, Rob, Dan, Alan C, Ian H, Norman, Adrian P, Roger, Joan, Wendy, Martin S, Matt G, Rhiannon, Paul G, Tim S, Louise

Pray for them in their

- Leadership roles
- Work life
- Home life
- Their walk with God
- Wisdom as they continue to seek to structure the leadership team to better serve the growing congregations

WHERE NEXT? GOSPEL EXPANSION

- Praise God for the work He is doing in Corsham and Rudloe
- Where is God opening up doors to further His work?
- Pray for the courage to pursue opportunities when they arise
- Praise God for the work He is doing in Wadswick Green – pray for Norman and Pat as they share the gospel there – that hearts would be softened and eyes opened in that community
- Pray again for Norman and Pat as they faithfully lead the prayer group that meets to pray for gospel expansion
- Pray that God would so fill our hearts with the love of Christ that it overflows to those around us

MEN'S MINISTRY

- Praise God for His continued blessing on this ministry
- Pray for Renton who has faithfully shared his testimony and encouraged the men in their walk with God
- Men in our fellowship that God would increase in them the desire to know Him and to love Him more each day
- Those who lead alongside Ian H – Paul K, Tom B, Mike P and Tim H – for God's guidance in seeking someone in his early twenties to join them
- Pray for the preparations for three focused Bible studies in September, October and November – “Jesus as King”, “Jesus as Priest”, “Jesus as Prophet”
- For Eddie as he trains ten men to help deliver these studies and for the men themselves
- For God's guidance on a possible weekend away

PRISON MINISTRY

- Those involved in leading Christianity Explored, Discipleship Explored, preaching and leading services
- Prison guards and prisoners

LADIES' MINISTRY

- Thank God for His blessing on this ministry

- Thank God for an amazing weekend retreat last April
- Pray for the women in our fellowship that God would increase in them the desire to know Him and to love Him more each day
- That God would help them to keep on “one anothering” and to continue to live out God’s grace in their lives
- Pray for the preparations for this year’s Bible study on Titus
- Particularly for those who will be involved in leading and teaching – Sharon, Kathy L, Anne H, Vicky S, Victoria K, Christine C, Esther K, Hannah S and Jill H
- Pray for those who prepare and serve refreshments, contribute to the blog etc.
- Pray for the preparations for the Ladies’ Day in June

YOUTH & CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

- Thank God for the many children and young people connected to the church
- Pray that they would all come to know Jesus and gain a solid faith in the Lord
- Pray for Dan, Rhiannon and the many teachers and helpers involved in this ministry
- Junior Church – that the teachers, helpers and children will continue to learn about God and grow in faith and love for Him
- That God would work in people’s hearts to bring forward the right people to fill the gaps in the Junior Church rotas across the congregations, and that people will see this as an amazing opportunity to serve God by sharing Him with the children in our church
- That God would deepen relationships between leaders and children
- Friday evening groups – Encounter (ages 5-7), Engage (ages 7-10) and Energize (ages 10-12) – thank God for the number of children regularly attending - more helpers – good relationships between the children and that they would learn about God and find Him for themselves
- Opportunities in the Primary Schools:
 - Praise God that Rhiannon continues to take the Bible Society’s “Open the Book” material into St. Patrick’s School and is now teaching Bible stories to years 1-6 – pray that the children’s desire and excitement to hear Bible stories would grow
 - Pray for opportunities to witness in the other local primary schools
- The Youth vision is to REACH non-believing young people, to CONNECT them with other believers, to help them to GROW in their faith, challenging them to DISCOVER their ministry and HONOUR God with their lives – pray that all that is done in the youth work would help facilitate this vision
- Give Dan and his team wisdom to tailor programmes accordingly and courage to change and, if necessary, end any programmes that are failing to achieve their purpose
- Praise God for the opportunities to witness in Corsham School
- Christian Union in the school – that God would use this group to draw young people to Himself and encourage those who have already put their trust in Him
- The young people themselves as they stand up for Jesus in their schools
- Those young people leaving home for university and elsewhere

- Cornerstone: evangelistic youth café held in Springfield community campus – for the young people to be active in inviting their friends and that God would draw young people to it so they can hear the message of Jesus
- Impact: Sunday night youth group – that God would use this to foster deeper relationships between young people and a deeper relationship with Himself
- Corsham Youth Zone: a community youth group
 - That Dan would be intentional in witnessing in word and deed with the other leaders and young people who attend
 - That God would help Dan to make the most of every opportunity to bear witness to Jesus
- Friendship Evangelism: pray that God would give the young people a clearer understanding of the message of Jesus and the courage to share the “hope that they have” with their peers
- For all the other opportunities that the young people have to meet together, study God’s word, pray, encourage one another etc.
- Enable them to discover and grow in the gifts God has given them
- Thank God for the fruitfulness of their summer trip to Soul Survivor
- For wisdom in what to invest their efforts into once Soul Survivor finishes in 2019
- Pray for Dan and Adam Beaumont (Lacock vicar) going into Lackham College’s Freshers’ Fayre in September
- Re-starting a chaplaincy drop-in at Lackham from 19th September
 - Pray for them as they seek to get alongside and support students
 - As they navigate the best way forward in being a Christian presence in that place
- Pray that all our children and young people would desire to know God and that they would continue to learn about Him and grow in faith and love for Him

TODDLER GROUP

- Team will reflect God’s love and everyone will feel welcome and cared for
- God will be at work in people’s hearts and will use the Bible verses and songs to speak to them
- The team will have wisdom and discernment when talking to the adults who attend
- The children will be safe in their play and will have fun
- People will want to go to the Ark and other Christian activities and that God will be drawing them to Himself
- Praise God that He has provided enough helpers each week for the number of children and carers
- Ask God to provide a new leader and to continue to provide enough helpers each week
- Pray for the team – Kathy L, Heather C, Helen C, Vanessa N, Jean P, Margaret H, Zelda, Julie K, Claire K, Colin W, Ian R

THE ARK

- Thank God for all those involved in running this ministry – Heather C, the puppeteers, those providing refreshments, those involved in craft, music, sound, lighting etc.
- Thank God for the increasing number of regular families attending
- For deepening relationships between church and non-church families
- Pray for God’s continued blessing on this ministry
- That the team would grow together in the unity of Christ
- That God would reveal His will for the Ark and that His Kingdom would grow through it
- Ask that God would provide everything needed for this work
- That people would continue to come and that God would work in their hearts, drawing them to Himself
- Pray for the “Ark on Sunday” starting in March – an opportunity to meet together for a family service – wisdom and guidance in running this service

MID-WEEK SERVICE

- Praise God for His continued blessing on this congregation
- Praise God for the spiritual growth that has occurred in many attendees of this congregation – for new believers and baptisms and pray for more conversions and baptisms
- Pray for those faithfully leading and running the service e.g. Eric, David M, key-board players, tea and cake makers, lift givers
- Pray for someone to replace Lynne L on the keyboard as she leaves to serve on Mercy Ships
- Pray for the pastoral needs of the congregation

CHURCH ON THE GREEN

- Thank God for His provision over the last year
- Pray for the leaders and families – Rob D, Adrian P, Paul G – for wisdom and guidance as they seek to lead according to God’s will and for His glory
- Pray for growth in the congregation both numerically and in fellowship with Christ and one another
- Pray they would increasingly live, worship and serve for God’s glory
- Gospel opportunities and the boldness, perseverance and courage to take them
- Protection over the congregation
- Junior church teachers to teach faithfully and clearly to the mixed age group of children
- For the children and young people to have a real love for the Lord
- Praise God for the regular coffee morning group consisting of the old Mums and Tots group – pray that relationships would continue to grow and God would give opportunities to share the gospel
- Praise God for Heart4Rudloe (bi-monthly “messy church” style service run by Box parish church with COTG support) – real fruit has been seen through this opportunity to engage with the local community – pray for additional helpers
- Praise God for the two Christianity Explored courses earlier this year and pray for a further course coming up soon

- Pray for Discipleship Explored course starting later this year
- The community of Rudloe and its representatives in government and local authorities
- Pray for wisdom in reaching all three distinct communities in Rudloe
- For the new housing estates – that other Christians might come to help proclaim the gospel – for wisdom in reaching these new areas
- Pray for provision of a building to meet in as Crumpets Café is reaching capacity – future of Rudloe Community Centre is still being discussed by the council? The local school? New build? Pray for wisdom and guidance

WELCOME AND IN-SERVICE MINISTRY

- Praise God for the many services we have
- Pray for the many people involved in serving before, during and after our services e.g.
 - The Welcome Team on the door
 - Those who prepare and clear away Communion
 - Those involved with taking up the offering and counting it afterwards
 - Those who serve teas and coffees
 - Those involved in prayer, leading worship, the overhead, the sound desk, preaching.....
 - The duty elders and deacons

PA MINISTRY

- Pray for the sound system operators and Ben R who leads this ministry
- Wisdom in maintaining and improving the system
- Patience for everyone, particularly between the two morning services which can be tricky

WORSHIP AND MUSIC MINISTRY

- Praise God for the many gifted musicians and worship leaders He has given us
- Pray that they would all grow in their walk with God as they serve in this ministry
- Ask God to raise up others gifted to serve in this way
- Pray for David M as he oversees the 11.15 worship teams and Joey P as he oversees the 9.15 worship teams
- Pray that we would all grow in worshipping God in spirit and truth

LIFE GROUPS

- Praise God that there are so many Life Groups but pray that more people would join groups and grow through the fellowship of being together
- Praise God for the many Formation Groups and ask that God would use these groups to transform us by the renewing of our minds
- Pray for the leaders of all the groups that they would grow in wisdom and strength
- Ask God to raise up more leaders
- A growing balance within the groups across all four areas in the LIFE principles i.e. Loving God, Individually known, Fellowship and Evangelism

PASTORAL MINISTRY

- Pray that God would help us all to reflect His love in caring for our brothers and sisters
- Pray for the sick and housebound and those who visit them
- For Joan C as she seeks to oversee and meet the growing pastoral needs of the fellowship
- Those organising, preparing and distributing meals

PRAYER MINISTRY

- Praise God for the many opportunities to meet together to pray
- The Prayer Chain – many answered prayers – those who administer it and those who pray
- Those who lead us in intercessory prayer and those who pray with us after services
- Pray that God would give us all the desire to draw closer to Him in prayer

MISSION AND THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

- Steve and Ruth in Tanzania – with AIM
- Gill and Steve in UK – with WEC
- Praise God for the time Neal and Lesley spent in Austria with Oasis and pray for them as they prepare to return there in February
- Compassion and the children sponsored by church members
- The Bible Society – Sue W, Alan K and Esther K who work there
- Short term mission – trip to Tanzania in October
- The Littles on Mercy Ships
- Persecuted Christians around the world

CORSHAM MONEY & DEBT ADVICE CENTRE

- Pray for those involved in this ministry - Brenda, John G, Colin W, Alan C and Alan S as he leads the ministry
- Keep the ministry rooted in prayer and gospel centred
- Clients – their financial situations and opportunities to speak the gospel to them

COMMUNICATIONS

- For all those involved in assisting our church in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and giving God all the glory e.g. those who design and distribute flyers, those who produce banners, those who provide information about our church and our ministries
- Pray for Louise as she processes and uploads the morning sermons at Priory Street and COTG
- Pray for Tim S as he works on the web site
- Pray that God would be glorified and that all our communications would always point to Him, not us!

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Praise God for a good health and safety record within our congregations
- Thank God for the opportunities that have been taken to improve Health and Safety
- Tim M as he oversees this ministry
- Raise up others with the necessary gifts to serve in this ministry

CRAFT GROUP

- Praise God for His blessing on this group
- Pray that whilst sharing craft ideas and techniques, they would be building deeper relationships with one another
- Pray that the church ladies would be bold in inviting their non-church friends
- Pray for opportunities to speak of Jesus to these friends
- Pray for Pam M and Hazel H as they lead this group

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Christianity and Discipleship Explored groups, walking groups, one-to-ones etc.
- Pray that in all our activities we would seek to point others to Jesus, to share the gospel with unbelievers, to encourage and disciple one another and to give all the glory to God