

Connect

Monday: Education and Childcare

I am Sarah Green and I'm married to Richard and we have been coming to TBC for 14 years. We are foster carers for South Glos local authority. During lock down my B & B business was closed and I decided I didn't want to reopen as I felt God was prompting me to start fostering.



After the application process we took our first sibling pair in 2022. We have seen how

keen the young people in our care are to come to Church and learn about Jesus. They have received lots of attention from the wonderful leaders and helpers in the children's groups.

My aim is for the young people in my care to see Jesus's love for them through the way I look after them. God has been so faithful to us in helping us to manage all the difficulties faced with caring for vulnerable & traumatised children.

Prayer points:

- The social workers who are under lots of pressure and have to make very difficult decisions about children that they are responsible for.
- The foster carers who are looking after some of the most vulnerable people in our society.
- The young people that they may be kept safe and thrive and surpass any low expectations society might have for them and reach their full potential.

Tuesday: TBC Community Mission

One of the arms of the **Families Ministry** is our Family Café that welcomes families with preschool children to come play, meet with friends and make new ones. We have a wonderful team that welcome, serve refreshments and chat with these families, providing a listening ear & encouragement in the everyday rhythms of family life. Family Café is often our first interaction with families in our community.

We have made a few changes since the beginning of the building project which has allowed us to introduce a quieter space where we can tell stories, sing, craft & do simple games or activities. This coming term we are looking at some of the stories Jesus told about the Kingdom of God & about God's love.

Prayer points for Families Ministry:

- That families would choose to join in with these Bible story times.
- That seeds will be sown in good soil for both adults & children.
- For more volunteers to serve in the Café as we are short on Thursdays & Fridays.
- Please also pray for all those starting school this term. Thank you!

Wednesday: Local/UK Partners

Thank you for supporting **Mircea and Ronela Cristian** and their ministry Rock of Ages as they reach most of the 45 prisons across Romania. The ministry based in southeast Romania from April until July this year has held 232 meetings in prisons with 1055 inmates, given out 92 New Testaments and Bibles and has seen 54 prisoners give their lives to Jesus which is amazing.

Prayer points for Ten:

- Please continue to pray for health and strength for Mircea and Ronela as they lead.
- Pray for a missionary family to come and join them in their work.
- Pray for the Bible Study programme and for all the expenses to be covered.
- Pray for the coordinators meeting they plan to have over three days starting on the 12th of September.
- Thank you again from our team at TEN (Transform Europe Network) for all your prayers and support and for sowing into what God is doing in Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

As of August 2024, the situation in **Ukraine** remains complex and challenging. The ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine has had a devastating impact on the country, its people, and the broader European landscape.

Despite ongoing peace talks, sporadic fighting and shelling continue in various regions of Ukraine, particularly in the east and south.

Millions of Ukrainians have been displaced within the country or have fled to neighbouring countries as refugees. Humanitarian aid remains crucial to support those affected by the conflict.

The conflict has had a severe impact on Ukraine's economy, leading to rising inflation, job losses, and economic hardship for many.

Prayer points for Ukraine:

- For peace to prevail in Ukraine and an end to the violence.
- For the safety and well-being of civilians, especially women, children, and the elderly.
- For humanitarian aid to reach those in need.
- For wisdom and guidance for leaders as they work towards a peaceful resolution.

Outreach Youth Clubs. During the week we run two youth clubs, Basement YR7-9 and Attic YR10-13. These youth clubs run in typical youth club style, they are a great place for many young people in the local community to hang out with friends, take part in activities & trips, play games and eat lots of tuck! The heart behind these clubs is to provide a safe space for young people to be themselves, find a listening ear, be accepted, and encouraged and for us to share God's love with them. Over the past year we've had many opportunities to get know the young people and the ins and outs of their home/school life, we've been able to support the older students in their difficult GCSE year and it has been really amazing to see some great 'God' conversations happening in our sofa discussion times!

Prayer points for the Youth:

- Thank God for all those who serve on our youth teams! That those who serve have a great sense of God's leading as they spend time with the young people.
- For the young people who attend the clubs, in particular for those with difficult family situations, mental health struggles and school avoidance.
- For the Christian young people within the groups that frequently share their faith within the 'sofa discussion' times. Pray that they have courage and boldness and that their peers have open hearts & ears to hear.

Saturday: Global Needs

Pray particularly this month for:

- For the persecuted Christians in North Korea.
- For the persecuted Christians being driven out of Bangladesh.
- Continue to pray for Gaza, Ukraine and the many other places of conflict around the world.
- For the millions of African Christians displaced due to violence.

Find more up-to-date prayer items for Christians suffering for their faith in the 'Latest News' section of the Open Doors website (opendoorsuk.org).

Healing & Comfort

Please use the weekly updated list of prayer needs sent out in the weekly notice sheet.

If you are concerned about someone who needs care or support, contact Paul Ferguson -
paul@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

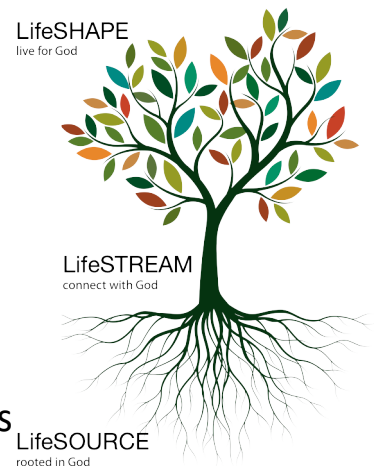
Sunday: Renewal

LifeSOURCE – Rooted in God*

And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him... (Colossians 2:6,7)

- What does it mean today, that Jesus is my LORD?
- In my current circumstances what does it mean to 'follow Jesus'?
- What am I doing this month to deepen my roots in Jesus?

Turn your thoughts into prayer this month.



*(Find all of our LifeWORKS discipleship resources on our website:

https://www.thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk/?page_id=15255)

Is God speaking?

If as you pray through Connect, you sense God speaking to us as a church family, do pass your thoughts to the elders.