

Weekly Prayers, News and Thoughts

Welcome to our condensed Newsletter. We are publishing this in digital format to help keep us up to date with each other.

Lockdown and social distancing are now undergoing changes and we are monitoring the situation. We are currently considering ways to meet up again physically and to re-open our building and become involved in the community again safely as soon as circumstances allow.

If you know of anyone who you feel would benefit from our online offerings please feel free to share our website at www.bishopbaptists.co.uk with others so they too can enjoy our weekly online service (also available on our YouTube Channel), newsletters, blog and other items of prayer and interest.

Pray for those who mourn and have lost loved ones to Corona Virus, for those who have the illness, for those caring and supporting those who are ill, for those exploring the possibilities of vaccines and for the effectiveness of national strategies and personal practices in overcoming the pandemic.

For help and support. please feel free to contact:

- John Claydon johnclaydon@thenba.org.uk
- Paul Revill paulrevill@thenba.org.uk or
- Elaine Webster elainewebster@thenba.org.uk

Prayers

Please continue to pray, either by yourself, or collectively, using one of the many online and social media channels for:

- ***Members & friends of our Fellowship***
- ***People, families & neighbours within your own circle experiencing difficulties***
- ***Those who work for our benefit and welfare in frontline jobs, putting themselves and their families in vulnerable and frequently life-threatening situations***
- ***Supermarket staff and other supply industries***
- ***Carers in Care Homes and Nursing Homes and Sheltered Housing and Hostels***
- ***Carers who look after members of their own families***
- ***Postal Workers and other delivery people who bring us our mail, food, and medicines***
- ***All those in positions of leadership, research, development, industrial organisations, and new productions, at this traumatic time***

This week We are asked by NBA to pray for our Baptist Hospital Chaplains at this time of great challenge and for our NHS as they support staff and patients who also carry anxieties of their own:

- ***Rev Robert Muir - Wansbeck Hospital, Ashington***
- ***Rev Jim Wright - Lead chaplain at North Tees Hospital, Stockton***
- ***Rev Rodney Breckon - James Cook Hospital***
- ***Rev Graeme Harrison - Lead chaplain, Northumbria Healthcare Trust***
- ***Rev Liz Edwards - North Tyneside hospital***
- ***Rev Dave Etherington - North Durham University Hospital + BAGH***

Please pray especially for all those living and working in:

- ***Newlands Avenue***
- ***Tivoli Street***
- ***Clarence Street***
- ***Walmer Terrace***
- ***May Street***
- ***The Auckland Project***

Pray for those who mourn and have lost loved ones to Covid-19, for those who have the illness, for those caring and supporting those who are ill, for those exploring the possibilities of vaccines and for the effectiveness of national strategies and personal practices in overcoming the pandemic. We must not forget those people who have recently lost loved ones too, from other causes and who are going through the grief and stresses which are made even harder to bear by the present circumstances.

Devotional Prayers - Preston Grange Community Church, North Shields

1 Timothy. 5:11 "Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. It is easy to overlook the importance of encouraging each other."

Whatever other ministries we may possess, we all have the ability to build one-another up through the gift of encouragement.

A few positive words at the right time can make such a big difference.

In our fast-paced world, it is so easy to overlook the myriad small acts of kindness that people provide for us each day.

Let us purpose to give words of encouragement to at least two people daily.

We give thanks:

- That Christ is still with us no matter how dark circumstances seem.
- That all things work together for good for those who follow Christ.
- For the surety of our salvation.

We pray:

- For our members welfare during lockdown.
- That we may soon be able to return to regular worship.
- That we may still provide an effective and caring ministry to our community.

(Prayers and devotional supplied by Roger M Daniel: NBA Co-ordinator)

Online Prayer

- Bishop Auckland Baptist Church Service
<https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/babc-sunday-service/>
- Northern Baptist Association Service
<https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/nba-sunday-service/>
- Influence Church Service (Services streamed Sundays at 11.00am and 5.00pm)
<http://www.influencechurch.co.uk>

FareShare Food Scheme

John and Vanessa at Bishop Auckland Methodist Church continue their sterling efforts in collecting the vast amount of FareShare food kindly donated by local suppliers. They are currently taking the food to Woodhouse Close Food Bank to ensure the most efficient route of distribution. The food bank is open every weekday from 10.00am until 12.00pm.

We are now investigating the possibility of additional donations from other branches of the scheme to assist in keeping the food banks resourced so they can continue to help those need.

Church Garden

As we progress and life moves ever-forward, we can now see more visible changes in the garden as work begins to further transform it into the sanctuary that we are aiming for.

The good friends of Bishop Auckland Baptist Church are working hard to achieve the vision as you can see in our [gardening blog](#) on the website.

Please pray for them and their endeavours as they work to bring an oasis of calm.

Thoughts

Isaiah 40:31

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and will not be faint.”

What a state this world is in!

It is easy for us to live victoriously for the Lord in good times when we soar on the wings of eagles, but where ever we look now we seem to see just chaos, disasters, tragedies, and so on, and worries pile up on top of worries.

Is it any wonder that we get down and depressed?

In times like this we often can't imagine that we are meant to soar like eagles buoyed by the Lord's presence and power.

It often takes all of our faith and hope to keep walking and not stumble or faint when trying times come.

But keep on walking... The Lord is there when you most fear he has forgotten you!

Father God, whose voice holds together our universe, give to those who can barely walk the strength to continue as they face the stress and assault of today's chaos.

It's at times of trial like these that the devil is there lurking and looking to magnify our fears and worries.

Pray for all those who are facing trying and often tragic times.

Please, dear LORD, give them the strength and faith to meet their most pressings needs.

Through Jesus, who conquered Satan, sin and death, and in the power of his holy name.

Amen.

The Thoughts and Prayer on Today's Verse are based on the thoughts of Phil Ware. phil@verseoftheday.com

It seems to me that this past week, our news headlines have been dominated by the problems and complications engulfing students' exam markings and grades, disappointments, with many young people finding it difficult to achieve their hoped for university/college places or jobs.

Though young people may appear to be confident and capable, yet the truth often is diametrically different.

What we often see as brashness and assertiveness is often a false facade of over-compensation and made up bravado on their part.

When I was leaving school a couple of generations ago, I was worried and suffered from a feeling of inadequacy. However, on looking back and comparing then and now, I'm glad that I didn't have the pressures applied to today's young people.

If I didn't have a job on Friday, then I could easily find another one on Monday. I also easily walked into two Technical Colleges.

Today, young people are frequently crippled by the pressures of our increasingly digital culture, where pornography, cyber-bullying, and online relationships are increasing, drug abuse in society is normal.

A high percentage of young people come from broken families; there has also been a rise in anxiety, depression, and eating disorders among young people.

Many are homeless (not necessarily rough sleepers); many have left home for the first time for employment or college; many can't find meaningful employment or training.

Pray on their behalf against these pressures, and for spiritual guidance from other Christians who can communicate God's love to them.

Pray that, as they study and work away from home for the first time, they meet new people who become good friends and support, and that they find the Lord is with them and they are not alone.

Pray that they are encouraged and are able to build confidence and develop vision and learn and acquire wisdom.

Pray that they are truly comforted when they are lonely or afraid comforted through the Lord's grace and are able to share their worries and excitement with good friends and supporters.

May they come to know that the Lord is their protector, and with Him in their lives they are in safe hands.

Also, here again are prayers suggested last week by NBA's Roger Daniel:

Prayers for The School Year:

We give thanks for:

- The students, pupils and teaching staff who are able to return safely to school.

We pray for:

- The students who have recently received their final results from secondary school.
- The pupils returning to school after lockdown
- Teaching and other staff members returning to school after lockdown.

(Prayers and devotional supplied by Roger M Daniel: NBA Co-ordinator)

Psalm 108 v4 & 5

For thy mercy is great above the heavens:

and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens:

and thy glory above all the earth;

Drive-In Church Events



NORTH BONDGATE CAR PARK, Bishop Auckland DL14 7PG
Starts: SUNDAY 26 July for 6 weeks
BOOKING ESSENTIAL for PARKING purposes - check event listing
SUNDAY: 26 July / 2 Aug / 9 Aug / 9 Aug / 16 Aug / 23 Aug / 30



Contact Adrian Hancock on 07557 736386

- BABC Sunday Service <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/babc-sunday-service/>
- BABC Newsletter <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/newsletter/>
- BABC Garden Blog <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/church-garden-blog/>
- NBA Sunday Service <https://www.bishopbaptists.co.uk/nba-sunday-service/>
- BABC Main Website www.bishopbaptists.co.uk

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