

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:

- ***Bolton Grove***
- ***Etherley Lane***
- ***Deerness Road***
- ***Escomb Road***
- ***Pollards Drive***
- ***Dene Hall Drive***

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.

BABC Readiness

Many of you have continued to donate time and money over the past difficult months to help BABC maintain our purpose as a Christian Church and a local community centre in Bishop Auckland, despite our reduced numbers in these times of lockdowns and worries.

By your generosity, quite a lot of local people in financial and family difficulties are being helped and sustained in the Lord's name.

It is a practical, and for some of you, a sacrificial way for the Love of the Lord to be shown to those we meet.

We pray that you will feel able to continue to support and bless the work of the Church in this way.

May you too be blessed through your steadfast readiness to show commitment and faith.

Devotional Prayers – Coulby Newham Baptist Church

Despite attempts to reach the church through phone and email, all attempts prove fruitless.

Their website shows that they resumed physical meetings at the start of this month.

We give thanks for that and pray that God will continue to keep them safe.

(NBA Prayer Coordinator)

BABC Tuesday Bible Study Restart

We are pleased to inform you all that, provided that we have no alterations in the ever changing of the Lockdown status, we will re-commence the Bible Study Group on Tuesday 22nd September at 12.30 pm.

- Entry will be by the side door on Westfield Road.
- Designated chairs will be socially distanced.
- Unless you have a medical exemption, you will be expected to wear a face mask.
- No refreshments will be served, so please bring your own juice or water and cup/beaker.
- The kitchen area will be out of bounds.
- The only toilet in use will be the one by the back door.

These above points are to reduce the amount of space used, thus reducing the amount of cleaning after the meeting.

(John Gaines)

Obituary - Pamela Nodding-Scott

I met Pamela Nodding-Scott, about 3 years ago, when I heard that a Choir was being formed to go into Care Homes, to sing the old hymns to residents.

When I first met her, I thought she was pushy, but as I got to know her better, I realised, all she was doing was trying to get us to sound as good as possible.

She led the "Singing the Faith Choir" from the front, encouraging us to do better, and she inspired us.

She became not just the Choir leader, but my friend, and I will miss her, and I know her husband Bill is devastated.

But I know one day I will join her, in singing God's praises, in Heavens Choir, and we will be singing every note perfect, not for her, but for Him.

(Pam Gaines)

A Prayer for School New Starters and College/University Students

Lord Jesus, schools and colleges can be a welcome place or a lonely experience for our children and students embarking on a new way of live.

Guide the young people as they seek to make new friends.

Encourage the timid students and give them boldness and strength in knowing they are loved, unique, and created by You.

To the insecure, grant confidence so they can be free to help others find the same assurance in You.

Guard our young people from those who bully or tease others because of their own insecurities.

As iron sharpens iron, may they choose friends wisely, always asking You to lead them and guide them in their relationships.

Help them to be slow to anger and quick to listen.

You have promised to give wisdom when we ask, so prompt them to speak up when their words can make a difference.

Show our students how to bless their friends, to stand up for them, and to take the initiative in helping others in times of discouragement.

Help them to understand that friendship is a returning gift: Kindness and unselfishness given away will return to them as a blessing.

And above all, may they always consider You, Lord, as their Best Friend.

Amen

(crosswalk.com www.rebeccabarlowjordan.com)

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

The garden is continuing to improve and as we look back at the blooms and sheer beauty of what has burst forth, we can appreciate that in these times, God still quietly works wonders.

The latest photographs can be seen on our [gardening blog](#) on the website.

Thoughts

John 6:28-29 (NIV): "To believe in the One he has sent!"

Sometimes we meet people of whom we may be more than a little suspicious about or wary about. We do need to protect ourselves and to keep others safe too, but at the same time we shouldn't regard them as people to avoid or, on the other hand, as "targets" for us to save.

We, like them, are all God's children who are less than perfect and need God's love.

We need to ask God to help us to see each other as He does. That is, in need of His love, grace and forgiveness.

God provides this to us through His only Son, Jesus, whose obedience to His Father, and whose love for us, His courage, sacrifice and faith, leads to our being redeemed when we believe who Jesus is.

Our lives must show this belief. No matter what good deeds we do, and have a duty to do, for others in physical and spiritual need, before we can really share the good news with others, we ourselves have to totally believe who Jesus is.

John 3 v16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Courses



CAP Money Course

Course dates

This course is run over 3 sessions:

- Tuesday 15 September 2020, 10:00
- Tuesday 22 September 2020, 10:00
- Tuesday 29 September 2020, 10:00

Contact: John and Vanessa Purdy (01388 603142)

**budget.
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The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. **Worship Learning and Caring Service & Evangelism**

 Meaningful Ageing Course,
Bishop Auckland



8 weeks in Oct/Nov for 2 hours per week

Helpful Links

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

Please feel free to explore the website and subscribe to [our YouTube channel](#) and those of our contributors to encourage them to continue to provide the valuable content from which we all benefit.

*May the grace of God uphold you,
the peace of God surround you,
the love of God flow from you
and the strength of God protect and bring
you safely through this day.*