

Weekly Prayers, News and Thoughts
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Wednesday Community Days

- Whilst we are constantly aware of the dangers of Covid we are now open both inside and out in the garden. Lunch is available from 11:30am to eat in or take away.
- Volunteers to help are welcome as are gardeners.

Church Services

- We are holding fortnightly services in church and continue to use online services in the intervening weeks.
- Next services are:
29th Aug: Service at Hamsterley Baptists Church - Preacher: Ray Richardson
12th Sep: Preacher - John Froud
26th Sep: Harvest Festival Service followed by Lunch - Preacher: Tony Taylor
- You will need a mask - sanitiser will be available and we will be socially distancing.

Bible Study

- Currently on hold until 14th September 2021.

Sharing God's Comfort

- If you know of anyone 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.

Prayers

Please keep in your prayers all local churches and remember those still suffering from the virus plus those whose finances are compromised.

Please continue to pray for:

- All in Bishop Auckland Hospital including Rev David Etherington, Hospital Chaplain.
- Berkely Grove, Lumley Grove, Balmoral Grove, Carlisle Grove, Barnard Avenue, Newlands Avenue, The Bishop's Palace Redevelopments, The Auckland Project.

Please give thanks for:

- The organisations and people who contribute food, clothing, and books for us to distribute to others including FareShare (via Asda), Feeding Families, The Auckland Project, Local Donations.

NBA Prayers

We are asked to pray this week for:

Our incoming Minister Hayley Young and our retiring Minister John Claydon

Thanksgiving

For Hayley's gifts of youth and enthusiasm, for John's faithful and fruitful twenty-year ministry.

Prayers

- That Hayley may settle into the role quickly, the practical details of her accommodation may be sorted out and she might see the NBA with fresh eyes.
- That John may enjoy his retirement as he lays down his ministerial burdens and that the Lord opens up new areas of service for him.

(Mike Cross -NBA Prayer Requests Co-ordinator)

Save The Dates

- Sat 11th Sep 2021.....John Froud Concert (7:30:pm)
- Sat 2nd Oct 2021.....Rev Hayley Young Induction (3:00pm)
- Sun 3rd July 2022.....BABC 150th Anniversary (All Day)

Thoughts

Philippians 4:6-7 *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

God wants to hear our prayers.

But to prevent them from becoming too self-focussed, God also wants us to always remember to give thanks.

It is so easy for us to turn prayer into a request line.

We are the ones who are left bereft when thanksgiving and praise are robbed from our prayers.

Without praise our hearts grow dim because all we think about are problems and prayer becomes a wish list.

Gracious God, I have so many *reasons to praise you.*
In the face of trial and hardship I have your promises to reawaken my hope.
In the moment of victory I have you to thank for my abilities.
In the boredom of the routine, I have great joys in your surprises.
Thank you God for being so great and yet so loving.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

(Phil Ware phil@verseoftheday.com)

Job 2:10 *"In all this, Job did not sin in what he said."*

"I don't understand His plan. I turned my whole life over to Him. And this happens!"

Such was the message of a son to his mother when his dream to succeed as a professional athlete was temporarily derailed.

Who among us hasn't had some kind of unexpected, disappointing experience that sends our minds into overdrive with exclamations and questions?

A family member cuts off communication without explanation; health gains are reversed; a company relocates unexpectedly; a life-altering accident happens.

Job 1–2 records a series of tragedies and setbacks in Job's life.

Humanly speaking, if there was anyone who qualified for a life free from trouble, it was Job: *"This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil"* (Job 1:1).

But life doesn't always work out the way we'd like it to—it didn't for Job, and it doesn't for us.

When his wife counselled him to *"curse God and die!"* (2:9), Job's words to her were wise, instructive, and fitting for us as well when things happen—big or small—that we'd rather not face. *"Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?"*

In all this, Job did not sin in what he said" (v. 10).

(Arthur Jackson - OUR DAILY BREAD)

Closing Prayers

Father, Creator, Maker of all

*Touch the hearts of those who look only for their own gain at the
expense of the poor and the earth.*

*Teach us to recognise the worth of each thing.
To be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature,
as we journey towards your infinite light.*

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Amen

(Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle Leaflet)

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>

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.