

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

<http://www.folkestonebaptistchurch.org/>



**Edition 234**

**5<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

## Prayer points

### Pastoral:

*In Hospital:* Wilf A.

*At home:* Edith, Gloria, Madeleine, Ruth, Diane S.

Continuing recovery: Carole.

*Friends and Family:*

Pray for those church members who are absent from the congregation at the present.

Pray for the Church Finances and the Church Leadership Team.

Roads around FBC: Browning Place.  
Capel: Green Lane.

**Local:** Pray: for children as they prepare to return to school

**National:** Pray for the vulnerable at this time as the weather gets very cold.

**International:** Pray for the families who lost loved ones to violence in New Orleans, Magdeburg, Montenegro, Nigeria, India, Pakistan, Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Sudan, Cameroon and Yemen to name a few. Pray for politicians across the world, that they may work together to bring peace

## Pilgrim Steps

Yesterday we had a day out in Rochester and decided to visit the Cathedral. There were lots of interesting things to look at but the one that has stayed with me was the Pilgrim Steps, a flight of steps into the part of the Cathedral that would once have held the shrines of saints. Over the years countless feet have worn away the stone work, each one leaving an impression. I don't expect any of them was aware that in a small way they were leaving a mark on the fabric of the Cathedral just by being there.

We know that the Church is built of 'living stones'. Each of us is a vital part of it and we make a difference just by being there. Most of us have probably no idea what an impression we are making.

As we make our way along the pilgrim steps into a new year, none of us knows what the future holds. However, we can go forward in hope, knowing many have gone before us. God is faithful to us as he was to them. He has called us and each of us is part of it. Even when we don't realise it we are making a difference.

Happy New Year from us all at Folkestone Baptist Church.

## Regular Church Events

Tuesday: House Groups: Check times  
Relaxation & Christian  
Meditation @2.00pm for coffee,  
3pm start

Wednesday: Prayer Pause 12pm

Thursday: Community Lunch 12pm  
Music Practice: 7:45pm  
House Group (10:30 am) and  
Messy Vintage (2:30pm)  
alternate weeks in Capel

Sunday: Church Service 10:30 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – All Age Service  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Communion

## BMS Prayer News

Pray for Ben Francis, Mission worker, leading a team of church planters. Louise and Peter Lynch teaching theological students in Bangladesh. Barnabas Hembron, doing a lot of outreach work. Praise God for the increasing numbers of disciples in North Africa. Praise God for the new mission centre in Wang Daeng. Pray that a 100 new disciple makers would be trained and sent. Thailand Karen Baptist Convention is seeking to expand its disciple making programme. Pray for the work in Mongolia.

## Bereavement

Sadly Tom Brunton's Mother, Betty, went to be with the Lord around midday, on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Our thoughts are with Tom, Emma and their family.

## Prayer Box

If you would like prayer for someone or something; please leave a request in the prayer box (near the Dover Road entrance). All requests will be dealt with in confidence

## Message from Tearfund

We hope you will join us in prayer for all the places where Tearfund staff and partners continue to work to show God's love, in the most practical ways, to people facing conflict, disaster and poverty;

[We're sharing their thoughts with you here](#)

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**Folkestone Baptist Church**  
LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, MAKE DISCIPLES

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### QR Code and Card Payments

For one off donations and hall bookings; scan this QR code with your phone to make a direct gift.



### Tuesday study group 2025

Tuesday afternoons we are starting the 'Life to the Full' course.

2pm for coffee, for a 2.30pm - 3.30pm session.

18 sessions about the basics of Christian faith. All welcome, but please let Chris know if you'd like to come.

**Belated Christmas Greetings from Chad**  
Claire Bedford, BMS missionary sends us her best wishes for Christmas

### Reflect with Graham Tomlin:

Gifts given and received at Christmas, and spot the key to a whole lot of wisdom

<https://www.seenandunseen.com/god-owes-us-nothing>

### Thursday lunches after Christmas.

9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 12 noon to 3pm soup and sandwiches

**Normal service will resume on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025.**

Chess available for those interested

### Notices

**January 23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Lunch recommences**

### 'Baptist Events in South East

Please see

<https://www.seba-baptist.org.uk/Articles/625407/Events.aspx>

### Rainbow Centre Vacancy

Homeless Support Service Officer

Salary: £23,500 per annum for 37.5 hours per week (excluding lunch breaks)

For more details click on this link: [www.rainbow-centre.org/vacancies](http://www.rainbow-centre.org/vacancies)

For any queries and clarification, please contact - Theresa Fowler - Office  
Managertheresa@rainbow-centre.org or 01303 850733

**Application deadline:** 13 January 2025 Interviews w/c 20 January 2025

### Contact Information

**Pastoral matters:**

**Pastors:**

Chris and Katy Ruddle 01303252916; 07808 728670

Email: [info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org](mailto:info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org)

Pam Barr (Capel) 01303 489006

**Room hire/use:**

**FBC:** Chris Ruddle 07808 728670

**Capel:** Pam Barr 01303 489006

**News Letter:** David Smithard

Email by Thursday please.

[galafrei@icloud.com](mailto:galafrei@icloud.com)

Weekly news sheets and sermons are now available on our website.

**Full fibre broadband at Hill Road**

Wifi: 'WorshipWifi': password: 'alphaandomega'.

**Prayers at Noon:** Come to the church and pray together at 12 noon, or pray for the church where you are. Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Psalm 48  
**(Not meeting this week)**