

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" Proverbs 3:5-6



Folkestone Baptist Church
LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, MAKE DISCIPLES

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

Edition 264

31st August 2025



Prayer points

Pastoral:

In Hospital:

Rehabilitation: making good progress

At home: Edith, Madeleine, Gloria, Chris,

Ruth, Wilf A, Pauline S. Di & Harold H.

Bunny.

Friends and Family:

Barbara J. Doreen W.

Pray for the Church Finances, the Fellowship and the Leadership Team in the discernment of the ongoing vision and how best to use members of the fellowship. The need for volunteers in the many areas of FBC ministry.

Roads around FBC: Ivy Way. Capel: Hurst Lane.

Local: Pray that families with financial concerns get the required help before schools restart.

National: Pray for the House of Lords and the upcoming debate on Assisted Suicide. Pray for the pressure to loosen the time limit for abortion.

International: Pray for church planting and the witness in Pakistan; resilience for Christians in Ethiopia under pressure from Islamic extremists; families facing armed attacks in Lac Province, Chad; safety and protection for all following the typhoons in the Philippines; peace for countries experiencing conflict; Israel's leaders of are open to listening to God.

275th Church Anniversary September

Saturday 13th: 3pm

Book Launch and Talk on the History of the Fellowship: Vincent Williams
Refreshments to follow

Sunday 14th: 10:30

Celebration Service

Preacher: Rev. Joth Hunt; Regional Minister

Buffet Lunch to follow

Thank Offering: Envelopes available: 7th September for two weeks

Parenthood

I don't know if you have seen anything of the David Attenborough series 'Parenthood'? As usual various creatures and their offspring really draw you in. Parents make sacrifices for their children, but then they let them go - even if they are still just eggs in some cases! This is on my mind today as we helped Esther move out, and into her new gear in town. It really does feel like letting our fledgling go - although in her mid twenties now she's probably big enough.

Parents will now be getting ready to send their children 'back to school'. Some will be starting off the first time - at school or nursery. Probably in many cases the parents will be more nervous than the children!

Heartbreakingly in the world there are parents who will not get to take their children home from school. I'm thinking of little ones shot while in church in Minneapolis. Others have faced bombing in Ukraine or hunger in Gaza. It is the worst of heartaches for a parent to lose a child or to see them in pain and be unable to help.

One of Jesus' most famous stories is of a father with an aching heart, whose child is lost. We call it the story of the prodigal son - but really it's the story of a loving father and of his overwhelming joy when his lost child returns to him. God is a father whose heart aches for all his children, for a world full of suffering. He has done more than send 'thoughts and prayers' to those who grieve. He sent his own beloved son, the founder healer, to bring the lost home. The father's heart aches for and understands our sorrow. He has paid the price for our forgiveness and healing and he gives as the privilege of calling "Our father".

Do you enjoy your Coffee and Tea?

The Sunday Rota needs some new volunteers to serve your coffee and tea after the service.

Ride and Stride Saturday 13th September
See Gareth House for further details

BMS Prayer News

Pray: for the work of Justice Livelihoods Health and its work in farming training, child protection and church/community mobilization in Uganda; pray for the health of the staff; for a peaceful election process; for climate stewardship; communities to build resilience and improve livelihoods with JLH; the work with churches to improve communities; for the leadership teams from top to bottom at JLH.

Global Week of Prayer from the 1st-7th September. *Will you join us?*

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/10037838082976993>

Churches together in Folkestone to the 24/7 online prayer room where we will commit ourselves to pray during the whole week and finish the week by coming together on Sunday 7th September for an evening of prayer and praise at Harbour church at 6pm.

To sign up go to <https://pray.24-7prayer.com/signup/f765d1>

choose the day and time slot add your name to commit to pray for that particular time. If you can fill more than one slot, feel free to do so!

You're invited to join us for a significant week as we partner with 24/7 prayer to see a Global wave of prayer for our world.

Anniversary Thank Offering

It is our custom at our Church Anniversary to take up a special offering as a thanksgiving to God to us individually and as a church through the years. This year we are celebrating an amazing 275 years since the founding of the church. Since an anniversary is about looking forward as well as back we have decided to make our anniversary Thank Offering a statement of faith in the future. Therefore the offering will be for work with children and young people at Folkestone Baptist Church.

Offering **envelopes** will be made available **from 7th September** and for two weeks afterwards. Please consider prayerfully what you will give.

Notices

September

1st Monday -7th Sunday: Global Week of Prayer

13th Saturday: Ride and Stride

Book Launch and Talk 3pm

14th Sunday; Celebration Service. Preacher: Joth Hunt

20th Saturday: Singing and Sausages

October

5th Sunday: CTF Well Life SKCC Church Hall

15-16th Wednesday and Thursday CRE, Sandown Park

November

1st Saturday: Bulbs and Bites

Regular Church Events

Tuesday: House Groups

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

Saturday: 2nd Saturday of the month – Messy Church 2:30-4:30 Capel

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

Ladies' Socials: See notice

Prayer Box

If 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

Prayers at Noon: Come to the church and pray together at 12 noon, or pray for the church where you are. Wednesday 3rd September Psalm 83

Ministry to the Forgotten:

https://lausanne.org/about/blog/grace-to-the-humble-equipping-the-marginalized-in-pakistan?utm_source=Lausanne+Movement+List&utm_campaign=463d192e22-Lausanne+Highlights%3A+July%2C+2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-3896a6311b-92139548

Contact Information

Pastoral matters:

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News Letter: David Smithard

Email by Thursday please. galafrei@icloud.com

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

Full fibre broadband at Hill Road

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