

"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 266

14th September 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: Plimsoll Ave. Capel: Green Lane.

Local: Pray for those who volunteer with local charities supporting vulnerable people.

National: Pray the reconciliation within the Royal Family; for tolerance and justice across the nation and honesty with politicians. Continue to pray for the Bill on Assisted Suicide going through the House of Lords.

International: Pray for the family of Charlie Kirk- assassinated in Utah; for all those killed in Palestine, Yemen, Qatar and Lebanon, Ukraine and across Africa and South America; For countries, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan and those suffering as a result of natural disasters; Nepal, Brazil, Myanmar and USA with political unrest; families of those lost trying to cross the channel; those living in camps such as Cox's Bazar.

275th Church Anniversary

Greetings have been received from Rev David and Mrs Doreen Doonan, Rev Graham Thompson, Alan May (from Australia).

Minister's Annual Leave

Katy will be on leave from 15th-26th September. Urgent pastoral call: Emma Brunton or Pam Barr.

Evangelism Podcasts from London City Mission

<https://www.lcm.org.uk/resources/podcasts/>

Not falling apart

In 1919 the poet WB Yeats wrote

"Things fall apart: the centre cannot hold

Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world." (The Second Coming)

He was writing in the wake of World War One, the Easter Uprising in Ireland and a world flu epidemic. He foresaw the end of an era, perhaps the end of Christianity, a new and menacing unknown future being born. It certainly feels as if things are falling apart when we consider our times. What does the future hold? It is important that in the midst of all this, when things are falling apart, that we find ways of not falling apart ourselves.

When I was young I was told, "Bibles that are falling apart are owned by people who aren't." In the Bible we find out what God is like and that gives us a rock to anchor on to. "The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer." (Psalm 18:2). David, another poet, wrote of his experience of God's protection in times of challenge and danger. Faith in this God holds people together. This week we celebrate 275 years of God's faithfulness to our Church. The Church has endured through wars and crises, threats of invasion, arrival of refugees. There have been times of prosperity and influence and there have been times when the church was small and poor and suspected of being subversive. Yet our God is a rock and he holds us together.

St Paul wrote of Christ "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together." (Colossians 1:17) He is holding the universe together and he holds you together too, even when everything falls apart. Ultimately, the thing that holds me together is that relationship with Christ. It is still the old fashioned things that nurture this, prayer and time reading or listening to the Bible and fellowship with other believers, praying, worshipping and working together in the local church. This is what builds resilient people who don't fall apart even when everything else does.

Thursday Lunches

Due to unavoidable volunteer absences Thursday lunches are taking a break until 9th October.

BMS Prayer News

Pray: Sarah Mhamdi and her work with 'Help for the Journey Ministry'; Elizabeth O'Brien working with the General Directorate team; finance team as they pull the 2026 budget together; Levino Liegise and the Intercultural Learning and Collaborative Dept.; Annet Ttendo Miller BMS 'Gender Justice Coordinator; Jenny Saunders and Tim O'Brien, Pastoral Care workers for VBMS Mission workers.

Flu and COVID Vaccinations

Appointments for [flu](#) and [Covid-19](#) vaccines can now be booked online, via the NHS App or by calling 119 for free. You can also contact your GP practice for the flu vaccination.

**Remember the miracles and wonders
God has done and remember He can
do more than we ask (Ephesians 3:20)**

Condolences

Our deepest sympathy to Dawn our finance officer, whose mother died this week

**“faith requires “a break, the most profound,
the most incurable break with this world.”**
Søren Kierkegaard

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

20th Saturday: Singing and Sausages

28th Sunday: CTF Prayer for Schools meeting: Harbour Church 6pm

October

5th Sunday: CTF Well Life SKCC Church Hall 6pm
15-16th Wednesday & Thursday CRE, Sandown Park

19th Sunday: Healthcare Sunday
<https://www.cmf.org.uk/health-and-care-sunday/>

November

1st Saturday: Bulbs and Bites

The truth and the resolution of our dilemmas – on immigration, or Gaza, or assisted dying are seldom simple. They require nuance. They need forbearance (Graham Tomlin)

World Childless Week 15 to 21 September 2025

Many people do not have children, some by choice others through no fault of their own. Many will feel a failure and not part of the community. Pray that they feel as fulfilled and accepted as those who are parents. For young Christians, to see these adults as positive role models and not assume that every adult is a mum, dad, grandma, or granddad

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 17th September Psalm 85

Contact Information

Pastoral matters:

Pastor:

Rev. Katy Ruddle 01303252916;
Church Contact Details: 07808 728670
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Pam Barr (Capel) 07444 325426

Room hire/use:

FBC: Administrator: 07808 728670

Capel: Pam Barr 01303 489006

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'.