

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” Romans 15:13



Folkestone Baptist Church  
LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, MAKE DISCIPLES

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

Edition 299

24<sup>th</sup> May 2026



## Prayer points

### Pastoral:

#### *In Hospital:*

Rehabilitation: making good progress

*At home:* Edith, Madeleine, Gloria, Chris, Ruth, Wilf A, Pauline S. Di & Harold H. Bunny P. Sue B.

#### *Friends and Family:*

Barbara J; Katy's mother; Rod at the time of Doreen's funeral.

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: Green Lane

**Local:** pray for Tracy Fletcher as she moves on from East Kent Hospitals.

**National:** Pray that wisdom will prevail in the House of Commons and that the ill-fated Euthanasia Bill will not reappear. Pray for those resisting trans-gender bias.

**International:** More school children have been kidnapped across Nigeria, pray for their release and the upholding of their families at this time; for Muslim converts in the Maldives who face harsh punishment if uncovered; pray for the rising up of Biblically sound churches across Europe; for the DRC and Uganda as they deal with the Ebola outbreak; for survivors of gender based violence in Thailand and Myanmar; the victims of the floods in Pakistan; peace in Iran and protection of Cuba from the USA.

## Notices

**Saturdays: Ladies Socials – see notice**

### May

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Claire Bedford visiting Hill Road  
6pm CTF Cheriton Baptist Church

**28<sup>th</sup> May Thursday:** World Menstrual Health Day

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** Church Meeting after the service

## Look Up

Emma and I have just returned from Baptist Assembly in Harrogate. It proved to be a very encouraging conference. The word “Up” was conspicuous in much that was said. Even the annual business meeting was full of encouragement as reports were brought of baptisms, church attendance and church memberships all being up on previous years. We seem to be living in a moment of spiritual openness. There is much to be hopeful about. As our motto text for this year puts it, we worship “the God of hope” and he causes us in turn to “overflow with hope” Romans 15:13.

However, we do not place our hope on statistics but in the God of hope himself. Rev Ali Taylor from Birmingham offered a reflection on Assembly on this word, “Up”. (You can find it on YouTube on the Heart of England Baptist Association channel). Ali directs us in the end to “Look Up” to the great God who is above all. This week is Pentecost when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit to empower Jesus' disciples and propel them out into the whole world. We look up to him in dependence and faith. From him, we will receive the power that we need to meet the challenges of this hour - but first we need to look up!

### Funeral for Doreen Wood.

Tuesday 26th May at 4.30pm . Hawkinge Crematorium. All friends welcome to the service but there is no wake.

### The Rainbow Centre

Client Support & Advice Coordinator

Further details:

[Theresa@therainbow-centre.org](mailto:Theresa@therainbow-centre.org) or 01303 850733

### BMS Prayer News

Pray for Oksana, Director of Finance for a BMS Partner in Afghanistan; for the lack of opportunities for women and the safety of young girls now that child marriage has been sanctioned; improvement of hospital services; for strength, clarity and perseverance for finance and IT teams and any opportunities to share the gospel; for better medical records in hospital and patient safety; for Oksana's home leave and the freedom to move around that that will bring; thank God for His providence in Afghanistan.

## Christian Aid Week: 10–16 May 2026



During the rest of May, we continue to fundraise as a Church for Christian Aid.

This Sunday, please support the plants and crafts sale after the morning service.

There is also still the opportunity to support Christian Aid with the Prize Quiz and by Sponsoring a Hymn.

Every contribution helps provide a future beyond poverty for families like Fridah's in Kenya.

### Church Meeting - 31st May

Significant topics for the Church's future direction will be discussed. Please make the effort to be there, particularly if you are a church member.

### Claire Bedford Visit Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May

News Letter in the Foyer

### Africa Day:

Find out more about G2 hospital here  
<https://www.healthservicecorps.org/hospitals/guinebor-2-hospital/>

### The Devil

**Belle Tindall-Riley**

Read more here

<https://www.seenandunseen.com/im-rowan-williams-when-it-comes-devil>

### Ladies Social Events All occur on Saturdays

4th July 2pm - 5pm Walk and Talk  
19th September 7pm - 9pm Singing and Sausages  
7th November 3pm - 5pm Relax, Refresh, Recharge  
December 3pm - 6pm Christmas Crafts

## 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

Friday: Craft Club: 2-4pm 1st Friday of the month  
Men's Group: 11am Chat and Bible study. Clifton Hotel

Saturday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month – Messy Church 3:00-4:30: Capel  
Prayer breakfast 9:30 Last Saturday of the month. Capel.

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

**Ladies' Socials:** See notices

### 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

**Prayers at Noon:** Come to the church and pray together at 11:30am, or pray for the church where you are. Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May Psalm 119:1-24

### CTF Pentecost Sunday

24<sup>th</sup> May  
6pm Cheriton Baptist Church

## Contact Information

### Pastoral matters:

#### Pastor:

Rev. Katy Ruddle 01303252916;  
Church Contact Details: 07808 728670  
Email: [info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org](mailto:info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org)

Pam Barr (Capel) 07444 325426

### Room hire/use:

**FBC:** Administrator: 07808 728670  
**Capel:** Pam Barr 07444 325426

### News Letter: David Smithard

Email by Thursday please. [galafrei@icloud.com](mailto:galafrei@icloud.com)

Weekly news sheets and sermons available on the website.

### Full fibre broadband at Hill Road

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