"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 316
22nd November 2026

Prayer points

Pastoral:
In Hospital:
Rehabilitation: making good progress
At home: Edith, Madeleine, Gloria, Chris, Ruth, Pauline S. Di & Harold H. Bunny P. Sue B. Nellie, Rupa and family.
Friends and Family:
Barbara J;
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: Park View **Capel:** Cauldham Close.

Local: pray for local councilors and emergency workers in the build up to Christmas.

National: Pray that Lord Moylan's Complications from Abortions (Annual Report) Bill will pass its second reading; for the work of the Christian Institute.

International: Pray that present conflict in Ukraine will not spread into other European countries; for Christians in Qatar and Iraq; for those staff working to treat people with Ebola in the DRC; for protection of people caught in the conflict between drug gangs and law enforcement agencies in Latin America; for the protection of missionaries in India; that the death penalty will cease across the world.

"Membership"

As we have a church meeting this week I thought I'd mention the Baptist concept of Church Membership. Baptists are famous for the practice of Believers Baptism: lots of water and celebration that someone has found the Lord and is promising to follow Him. But the other half of what we believe is that the church is made up of those who have chosen for themselves to follow Jesus, rather than had it chosen for them by parents or nationality. That is what it means to have a "personal relationship with Christ". That relationship means that person is not solitary. You become part of Christ's family when you follow him.

For us, this is expressed in the local church with ordinary, flawed human beings who are also trying to follow Jesus. It works best when we all play our part. Everybody counts. When we gather together in church meetings, although here is business to be done, we are not governing a club. We are recognising each other as brothers and sisters in Christ and seeking to hear his voice and will together.

I have sometimes been frustrated by church meetings. Sometimes they have been badly run, sometimes people behave badly. But I have also been grateful for the wisdom people share and I have often been very proud of our church and how people step up.

Perhaps you are interested in finding out more about becoming a church member. In which case, I would be very happy to have a chat.

Nativity Play Rehearsal
29th November 2026
After the Service (12:00)
in the Worship Area

Diary

November
22nd Sunday: Church meeting and election of Officers and Deacons
29th Sunday: Advent Sunday

December
6th Sunday: All age Nativity (talk to Katy Ruddle)
15th Tuesday: Community Carols
17th Thursday: Christmas Lunch (12:00)
17th Thursday: Christingle (17:30)
18th Friday: Carol service (Capel – St. Radigunds Church 19:00)
25th Friday: Christmas Day

Walking Alongside those struggling with chronic illness

Helen Thorne-Allensen

https://foclonline.org/talk/walking-alongside-those-struggling-chronic-illness

'I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.' (Psalm 91:2–4)

The soul of a constitution: between law and theocracy. Abtin Samie

https://www.seenandunseen.com/soul-constitution-between-law-and-theocracy

In the Image of God

A free webinar from the Christian Institute

https://www.christian.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/meetings/2612englandonline.pdf

Ladies Social Events

All occur on Saturdays

12th December 3pm - 6pm Christmas Crafts

BMS Prayer Points

Praise God for the work of Justice Livelihoods Health and the work of Jackline Akong; pray that victims of abuse will seek help from JLH and Christian Lawyers Fraternity; for access to Police Form 3 and timely medical examinations; that churches and congregations will speak out against domestic abuse; pray for restoration, healing and wellbeing; pray that the JLH team will equip church leaders to recognise abuse and to respond biblically to protect the vulnerable; give thanks that Pastor Agaba, following training, is a champion in the area of domestic violence.

MOVEMBER®

Paul is raising money for November which funds research and prevention-focused programs in the fight against prostate cancer and testicular cancer.

Regular Church Events

Tuesday:	House Groups
Thursday:	Pray Pause 11:30 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:	2nd 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 1st Sunday – All Age Service 3rd Sunday - Communion

Ladies' Socials: See notices

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 11:30am, or pray for the church where you are. Thursday 29th November Psalm 136

To donate to the work of FBC scan here

Contact Information

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News Letter: David Smithard
Email by Thursday please. galafrei@icloud.com

Weekly news sheets and sermons available on the website.

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