



Church Family Prayer

Praise and Thanksgiving

Before going into breakout rooms, spend some time as a whole group praying prayers of praise and thanksgiving.

Evangelism

Thank God for:

- Those who shared the gospel with us.
- Reports of church family having good gospel conversations with people in the villages in recent months.
- Those 7 people taking part in Christianity Explored.
- 60 Y1 school children visiting OPC yesterday and good relationships with the school.
- Visitors continuing to join us on Sundays, both virtually and in-person.

Pray for:

- Those 7 on CE to come to a personal faith in Jesus as their Lord and saviour.
- Those children who visited yesterday – that they would read the book they went away with and be drawn to Jesus through that, what they heard from us and their experience of the church.
- For Sundays to be accessible and engaging for non-Christian visitors and a context where people hear the gospel.
- For a culture of evangelism right through our church and right through the week.

The Pandemic

Give thanks for:

- The success of the vaccination rollout and those involved in its implementation.
- The continued progress in 'the numbers'
- The NHS and its staff.
- The gradual easing of restrictions we're currently experiencing.

Pray for:

- The continued speed and effectiveness of the vaccine programme and for an ongoing decline in rates of infection, admissions and deaths.

- Europe and other parts of the world struggling more than we are as a nation.
- Protection for those who are most vulnerable, medically and economically.
- Wisdom for the government as they oversee the easing of restrictions.
- Those continuing to mourn – that they might know God's comfort and seek eternal security through Jesus.
- For churches to be allowed to hold services without social-distancing and with singing from 21 June.

Our Church – People

Those who are unwell:

- Doreen Brook
- Roy Womack
- Jean Pearson
- Evelyn Coulson
- Sarah Asbery
- Denise Balfour's mother, Margaret.

Those in leadership positions:

- Anna De Castro – as she leads and develops the children, youth and families work and plans for ministries beginning

later in the year, including the youth getaway in August.

- Chris Tufnell – for wisdom in leadership, sustaining in the course of regular sermon prep and a close and deepening walk with the Lord. Please pray for a healthy blend of work and home life.
- Helen Hayward and Andrew White as our church wardens and the rest of the PCC as they make decisions about the life of the church.

Oughtibridge Chapel

- Give thanks for our brothers and sisters at Oughtibridge Chapel, their love of their Lord, their heart for Christian unity and their desire to reach these villages with the good news of Jesus.
- Pray for all at the chapel as they continue to consider their likely unification with OPC. Especially, pray for the elders – Matt Brook, Pete Shapland, John Scarffe and Richard Hall – as they discuss legal arrangements with the Wesleyan Reform Union.
- Pray for us at OPC to be loving, welcoming and sensitive to those possibly joining us. If that proves to be what happens, it will be a 'bitter-sweet' time including a sense of loss over what has been.
- Pray that if we do unite, we would become very deeply one church family and that we would indeed be more effective in reaching our community with the gospel.

Our Church – Ministry

Children, Youth and Families:

- Sunday Club and its leaders, including as several children join us for the first time. For good, consistent attendance, the engagement of the children and spiritual growth.
- Youth Bible Studies, now meeting in-person again. Thank God for big encouragements in this. Pray that the Lord would use these gatherings to engage the youth on a personal level and grip their hearts with the gospel of Jesus.
- For 'Connect', the youth getaway planned for late August. For it to be a time of spiritual growth and building friendships.
- Parents as they seek to disciple their children at home and model the Christian life to them.

of their own health or the mental adjustment to new norms and patterns.

- For 'Small Group Central' to be a place of real spiritual growth as we seek to apply the teaching from the previous Sunday.
- For our current talk series through Exodus to be a cause of our collective spiritual growth.
- For all those who serve us on Sundays through the music, sound, visuals and live stream.
- For our preachers and visiting preachers preparing each week to teach the Word. Also for a small group being trained to be occasional preachers.
- For our individual Bible reading and prayer lives to be deepening our delight in God and the gospel.

Discipleship:

- For those who may find the move out of covid restrictions difficult, either because

Our Community

Pray for:

- Local businesses looking for clarity about reopening and seeking to continue trading.
- Our schools and their staff as they continue to support children out of year that has been very difficult, particularly for some.
- Those who are especially isolated or who have been bereaved during the last year.
- Those who are struggling financially or who struggle to provide for themselves.
- For us collectively and individually to be forming good relationships throughout our community and making the most of opportunities to speak of the hope that we have.

Pray for others in your breakout room and any specific needs / requests