

Tuesday 28th

Remember the young people going to nursery or playgroup for the first time. Pray for their mums, carers and little children.

Wednesday 29th

As universities and colleges go back to work please uphold Christian Unions in their witness in campuses around the country. Pray for God to give them a heart for mission and outreach. Remember Reach Volunteers and staff workers employed by UCCF* in full time outreach in towns and cities all over Britain.

Thursday 30th

Pray for Tabs to develop a more prayerful attitude towards those less well off in terms of finance, resources, and a capacity to do things. Help us to be more gracious to those whom God puts on the agenda for Tabs to help in whatever way needed.

Friday 31st

Today is a good day to praise God for your salvation. Do not ask God for anything for anyone today; just give Him praise for the gospel and the forgiveness of your sin, by Jesus on a cross.

UCCF* University and Colleges Christian Fellowship

Contributions for the prayer diary should be sent to john.stansfield5@btinternet.com or left in the pigeonhole in the foyer by 7th of the month.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

'Jesus' love is very wonderful' is a line from a chorus about God's love for people. 'I just love ice cream!' sums up the average 10 year old on holiday. 'I love you' says the bride and bridegroom on their wedding day, and five years later they are in the divorce court. The word 'love' is overused and clichéd because there are no common substitutes. 'Agape', 'eros', 'philia' are Greek words which express different ideas and kinds of love: love of God, physical love and brotherly love. In the Bible Jesus talks a lot about love: for God, for one's neighbour, for one's family and friends, for the church and all the difficulties that presents. In His prayers Jesus often prayed for others, and then He told His disciples to do the same as Him. By implication Christians who pray for others are doing two things: doing what Jesus told them to do and showing love towards the people for whom they pray.

Working at love is not a strange idea to married couples, like a tender plant love has to be tended and nurtured. Showing love to others by praying for them in a meaningful way takes time, energy, persistence and above all love. You do not usually give expensive presents to strangers, but showing love to your spouse or friend takes time, resources, and love. While praying this month please pray in love for those dear to you, and also those not so near who need a bit of love.

tabernacle : penarth

purpose : to reflect God's love in
our church, community and world

prayer diary : january 2014

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

Matthew 28:19

In 2013 we focussed our attention on the theme of 'Grow up!' with our verse for the year and 4 series of sermons on the subjects of maturity and discipleship. One of the features of mature organisms is that they reproduce - immature people, animals or plants are not able to produce offspring, but mature ones do. For 2014 we are taking the theme of 'Grow up' and developing it into the theme of 'Go!' Now is the time for mission and evangelism. Now is the crunch time when churches need to move from maintenance mode to being a missional community. Pray that this year we will "Go and Grow" for the sake of the kingdom!

Pastor Roger

Wednesday 1st (New Years Day)

Please give thanks today for recent festivities and commit this year to God. If you still believe in New Year resolutions pray over what they might be for the coming year.

Thursday 2nd

Many workers will go back to work today after the holiday. Please pray for someone you know who works.

Friday 3rd

Today please pray for the Coptic Church in Egypt and surrounding countries. Ask God to renew their witness, strengthen their resolution and above all share their faith with those around them.

Saturday 4th

Please pray for victims of recent natural disasters which have caused much suffering. The typhoon in The Philippines in November for example caused many deaths and widespread damage. Pray for ongoing relief, rebuilding and hope for those affected by the storm.

Sunday 5th

Pray today for the services in churches around Penarth, let God be glorified in all the events today.

Monday 6th (Epiphany)

Today is the feast of the Epiphany when the Wise Men are reputed to have presented Jesus with His gifts. Let us pray today that we can all recognise the same qualities in Jesus as they discerned. Pray to receive those qualities too.

Tuesday 7th

Tonight at 7.30 in Church is the launch of the new Small Groups term when the new study notes will be available. Everyone is welcome to attend. Small Group members pray for each other, so please pray for someone you know who is NOT in a small group, and see if you can encourage them to come along, (Cedric Longville).

Wednesday 8th

Today the Leadership Council will meet, please pray for them as they meet to consider the business of the church.

Thursday 9th

This time three years ago the church was being asked to pray for the new nation of South Sudan. In the last year the news from there has not been great. Please pray for the leaders and people of this nation, and ask God to bless them as they try to build a Christian country in Africa.

Friday 10th

Remember the youth outreaches on Friday nights, Xtreme and Beyond Xtreme and After Nine. Please uphold leaders and kids in these enterprises.

Saturday 11th

Please pray for the ministerial team in Tabs, Roger Grafton, Jonathan Bugg and the support staff and volunteers who work in the church during the week.

Sunday 12th

Please pray for the itinerant preachers in Baptist churches around the area. Give thanks for the blessings you receive in Tabs and pray for similar blessings for churches supported by Tabs based preachers.

Monday 13th

Today will be a working day for most people. Please pray today for those who do not have a job. Ask God to provide for their needs and give hope where it has been in short supply.

Tuesday 14th

There are many people who cannot work because they do not have the capacity to do so. This can be due to disability or medical reasons or inability to cope in general, ask God to meet with people with these needs today.

Wednesday 15th

Today the midweek communion service will be led by a member of Tabs. Please pray for all those who will attend. Also there is the launch of The Alpha Course for this year starting today.

Thursday 16th

Please pray for the chaplains and visitors in local hospitals who seek to comfort those in pain or who are ill.

Friday 17th

Please pray for the other Baptist causes in the area: Cosmeston, Llandough, and Stanwell Road. Pray for Mary & Jeff Dyas at Mt Pleasant Barry. Ask God to bless their witness, outreach and ministry.

Saturday 18th

During December Thailand experienced much political unrest. Please pray for the many meetings/conferences that are held in Thailand for workers in nearby countries this month. Pray specially for meetings to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Central Asia Fellowship (CAF) being held in Chiang Mai from 19 to 25 January in which Dot Evans will be involved. Pray for the current field workers as they take time out for training and fellowship together. Pray for the Annual General Meeting and the decisions that will be before the members concerning structural changes in 2014. Pray for all speakers.

Sunday 19th

Pray for families – single and two parent families. Pray for love, generosity, discipline and commitment to help young people grow, and don't forget fun.

Monday 20th

Please remember the South Wales Baptist Association and the work they do in supporting Pastors, promoting mission and looking after legal and practical questions on properties used by Baptist congregations. Please remember Nick Bradshaw, Andy Hughes and Jackie Godding.

Tuesday 21st

The Global Mission Group sets out to promote mission in the church. Please pray for the work of promoting and encouraging mission in Tabs.

Wednesday 22nd

Please pray for the Wales Assembly Government, the First Minister AMs and all who exercise power in Wales.

Thursday 23rd

Spare a thought for those members who would love to go to a house group today, but cannot because of age, sickness, being house-bound, domestic commitments, work or any other reason.

Friday 24th

Please pray for those who are bereaved, those for whom the late festive season may not have been so festive and those for whom the long dark nights and short days in January can be a trial.

Saturday 25th

Peace in the world can only come when people are willing to talk and compromise. Examples abound of conflicts which have been long where neither side could win militarily, South Africa and Northern Ireland being examples. Please pray for peace in Syria and for all who strive for peace. Ask God to create conditions for an end to the war in this country.

Sunday 26th

Please pray for the housebound in Tabs. The names on the weekly news sheet are people who are not able to attend church. Please pray for someone you may know.

Monday 27th

Pray for old folks, those who find life hard without a partner, those in poor health, living in financial difficulty or just lonely.