

alternative services offered instead of the occult offerings.

SIL Summer Institute of Linguistics  
TWAM Tools With A Mission  
BMS Baptist Missionary Society

Contributions can be sent to john.stansfield5@btinternet.com before 7th of the month, or left in the pigeon hole in the foyer.

### Thought for the Month

"History is bunk" is a phrase attributed to Henry Ford who founded the Ford Motor Company in USA. There are lots of programmes on the TV that explore all sorts of aspects of history, from tales of huge wars and battles to families and individuals. Everyone is effected by history whether they like it or not. If you were born in Iraq the history of the Middle East, the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the British mandate in Iraq in the 1920s & 30s all indirectly impact on your life. If you were born in Wales the chances are very high that two or three generations back someone in your family tree came from England to work in a coal mine, resulting from the discovery of coal in South Wales. All these are examples of history influencing the material circumstances of families and how they live their lives. The Iraqi family could now be in a refugee camp, with no prospects. The Welsh family could have good jobs, economic prosperity and a good life.

The way the history of the church is presented, the historical theology espoused by a church, the ongoing ministries within a church all effect the choices available to those who follow on in the wake of preceding generations. Trying to change the ideas and culture in a country, organisation, family or group can be an uphill struggle. Turning around the fortunes of a failing business, school, organisation or family needs a radical approach, which changes the culture from one of fatalistic acceptance to a dynamic which reaches out to achieve new goals and targets. In God's economy this starts with prayer, setting aside old ideas, programmes and ways of doing things, and looking for God to lead to new thinking, methods, and opportunities. This month ask God to show you things which can lead to new opportunities, outreach possibilities, and moving you and the church on to new victories in Jesus, new converts, better programmes and greater outputs in the Kingdom of Heaven.

# tabernacle : penarth

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

## prayer diary : october 2016

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
his love endures forever."  
1 Chronicles 16:34

October is the time of year when we celebrate our Harvest festival. Harvest is a slightly bizarre concept for a group of people who live in an urban setting and get all their food from supermarkets, but I'm not brave enough as pastor to try and replace it with something more culturally appropriate! Harvest is the time of year that we give thanks for all God's provision and care throughout the year, but it should be more than that. As we acknowledge all that we have been given, we ought to reflect on those who have less than us and be generous in sharing God's bounty. The Old Testament has many examples of how harvest was a time for giving to the poor and needy, and remembering the 'have nots' amongst us. Even the process of harvesting itself was designed to leave enough in the field for the poor and hungry.

As we bring our Harvest gifts this year and give thanks for all we have, we also pray and give for those in Penarth and around the world who are in need, and share, thankfully, what we have been given.

**Pastor Roger**

### Saturday 1st

Pray for the families of people caught up in terrorist atrocities in recent weeks. Pray for those in the security services whose job is to eliminate such threats and give world leaders vision how to end this dreadful evil.

### Sunday 2nd

This month the annual madness for Christmas will begin in earnest. Pray that God will help people see past the tinsel and spin to the Incarnation of Jesus.

### Monday 3rd

Pray for the Tabs ladies who meet together on Mondays.

### Tuesday 4th

Visiting the old, sick and infirm should be every member's duty. Please pray for those who do this task in Tabs, remember those being visited too. A list of names can be found in the weekly news sheet.

### Wednesday 5th

The Leadership Council will meet today. Please pray for the deliberations and decisions taken.

#### **Thursday 6th**

Please pray for those who meet for fellowship on various evenings during the week. Ask God to bless the gatherings for prayer and bible study.

#### **Friday 7th**

In August a number of teenage young people went to Soul Survivor. Pray for those who are thinking about spiritual issues, and Naomi Best as she mentors this group.

#### **Saturday 8th**

Please pray today for peace in Iraq and Syria. Ask God to alleviate the suffering of people in these countries and bring an end to conflict on a permanent basis.

#### **Sunday 9th**

Give thanks today for everyone who contributes to the running of the services in Tabs. Let Jesus' name be honoured in the worship today.

#### **Monday 10th**

The working week comes around all too quickly for those who work. Pray for someone who works who you may know.

#### **Tuesday 11th**

Please pray for the team at TWAM who meet every week to collect, clean up and send old tools, sewing machines, haberdashery and education packs to developing countries.

#### **Wednesday 12th**

Food distribution from the Food Bank, Breakfast Club, midweek Communion and some Small Groups meet on Wednesdays. Please pray for those who lead, serve and use these services.

#### **Thursday 13th**

Small groups meet regularly, and one of their tasks is to pray. Ask your small group to pray for that difficult relation who does not 'do God and all that rot'. Ask God to be gracious to that person and build up faith among those who pray.

#### **Friday 14th**

BMS run a disaster fund on the principle that saving in good times means having something to contribute in disasters. Last year BMS was able to help in the Nepal earthquake immediately as a result of this policy. Ask God if you should be contributing to a disaster fund.

#### **Saturday 15th**

Think today of the lay preachers who serve other churches in the area every Sunday. Ask God to bless those from Tabs, and remember also students from the Cardiff Baptist College who all go out preaching every week.

#### **Sunday 16th (Latimer, Ridley & Cranmer)**

These men are known as the Oxford Martyrs and were burned at the stake for wanting people to read the scripture in their mother tongue. If you have a bible in your 'heart language' then pray for translators around the

world working for; Wycliffe Bible Translators, Bible Society, SIL\* and many more.

#### **Monday 17th**

At the start of a new academic year please pray for outreach to students, remember the work of Christian Unions in colleges, universities, hospitals and schools. Pray for any students known to you, that they may encounter Jesus while away at college.

#### **Tuesday 18th**

Please pray for the Mums and young children who enjoy Tab's playgroup, toddler group and other preschool outreaches. Ask God to bless the leaders, parents and children.

#### **Wednesday 19th**

Remember young people going to school, particularly year 7 as they get used to secondary school. Pray for Christian children who wish to make a stand on biblical principles in the face of atheistic teaching on a whole range of moral and ethical issues.

#### **Thursday 20th**

God has blessed Tabs with enough finance to meet most needs. Thank God for this provision and also for those who look after the money, pray for honesty, integrity and dedication.

#### **Friday 21st**

Pray for the youth outreaches which meet on Friday evenings. Ask God to bless this work, give them safe and happy club meetings, and to provide enough leaders to meet the demand.

#### **Saturday 22nd**

When was the last time you looked at your giving to Tabs and other causes? Do you bother to tithe your money? Ask God to guide you in these matters.

#### **Sunday 23rd**

Pray today for your favourite ministry at Tabs.

#### **Monday 24th**

Pray today for someone special.

#### **Tuesday 25th**

Pray today for someone near to death.

#### **Wednesday 26th**

Pray today for an overseas worker, like the Douglas family in Nepal, or Judy Cook in Thailand.

#### **Thursday 27th**

Pray for a distant relative.

#### **Friday 28th**

Very soon the American election will take place. Pray for God to overrule in the outcome.

#### **Saturday 29th**

Pray for a subject of your choice today.

#### **Sunday 30th**

Pray for Roger Grafton and all the staff employed by Tabs.

#### **Monday 31st**

Today is Halloween (All Hallows (Souls) Eve). Please pray for protection for people and