

Sunday 30th

There have been many Jehovah's Witnesses on the streets recently. Ask God to confound their schemes and deliver those they try to lead astray from their clutches and direct them to Jesus.

Monday 31st

Please pray for the needs of the women in the church. Pray for a lady whose needs you may know about, commend her to God.

Contributions can be sent to

john.stansfield5@btinternet.com before 7th of the month.

Thought for the Month

Observation

When you were young were you ever challenged to play 'Kim's Game'? This is named after Kim in Rudyard Kipling's stories. A tray of objects is placed in front of the participants for a minute, then covered and you have to list the objects from memory. After a bit of practice most people can make a good list with only a few items missing. However when first tried most people only get less than half right. So developing the powers of observation and description takes time, practise and patience.

When you are shown information, say for example during a missionary presentation or film, how much do you remember? More to the point, how much do you remember that you could use as the basis to pray in a meaningful way about the people, situation or location which you have just been informed? Have you ever been a witness to an event which has required you to describe what, who and what happened to you? Ask any Police Officer and they will tell you that you can get five different accounts from five witnesses to the same incident. So when you pray about something you may have a different slant on the same situation to someone else, both are equally valid.

While you pray this month ask God to help you observe what you are seeing, retain the important information, and use it to pray well over whatever situation God is leading you about. As in Kim's Game, the more you practise observation the better you get, so with prayer, the more you observe and are informed about a situation, the better you can pray about it.

tabernacle : penarth

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

prayer diary : july 2017

It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;
you made both summer and winter.

Psalms 74:17 (NIV)

If you are anything like me, you moan all through the winter months about the weather: it is too cold or too wet or too grey. Then along comes a heatwave like the one we had last month and we moan that it is too hot! Humans, it seems are never satisfied.

The Psalmist reminds us that God makes both the summer and winter. He puts the clouds in the sky and tells the sea where to stop at the seashore (Job 38:8-9) and has storehouses filled with snow and hail, ready for just the right time (Job 38:22)

When we grumble about the weather, we are grumbling against God's providence and provision. He knows how much rain we need to make plants grow, or how much snow and ice we need to kill off dangerous bacteria. He knows just how long to make a heatwave... and just when to bring back the summer-showers. As God reminds Job, he is God and we are not. Maybe it is time to realise that he knows what is best, and give him thanks in all seasons!

Roger Grafton

Saturday 1st

Pray for the newly elected government in London, for wisdom, patience, equity and honesty when dealing with affairs of state.

Sunday 2nd

Please remember the itinerant preachers in Tabs who go week by week to support the ministry of other churches. Please pray for the churches where they go to lead services and the quality of that service.

Monday 3rd

Remember the ladies of Women's Hour who meet today for the last time before the summer break.

Tuesday 4th

Please pray for the outreach activities in Penarth Holiday Week which the church will support. Ask God to guide and bless those who plan and execute these events.

Wednesday 5th

Leadership Council meets today to consider the work of Tabs. Please pray for the proceedings.

Thursday 6th

Request for the Cell Group ministry in Tabs being fostered by the Leadership in recent months.

Friday 7th

Friday night is youth night in Tabs. Ask God to grant refreshment and rest on those who participate in leading this ministry over the holiday. Ask God to provide occupation for young people with time on their hands in the next few weeks.

Saturday 8th

Home Mission is the way Baptists help each other to do ministry. The most prominent aspect of Home Mission is support for ministers in small churches. Money raised in Wales is mostly spent in Wales supporting ministry in deprived areas. Please pray for all aspects of Home Mission.

Sunday 9th

Ask God to guide and help those who plan, lead and execute services in both morning and evening services. Bless the assorted group of people who play in the band and sing.

Monday 10th

Pray for the Prayer Meeting held every Monday evening. Do you support this ministry, ask why not? Ask God to reinvent this ministry in Tabs.

Tuesday 11th

Pray today for Roger & Claire, Owen & Lindsay as they lead the church.

Wednesday 12th

Do you shout for a particular team? Barnabas Aid shouts for the persecuted church, all round the world, with practical help, finance, publicity, political lobbying and compassion. Pray for efforts to protect Christians from attacks by jihadists and other violent extremists.

Thursday 13th

Café International meets every week ministering to overseas nationals living in Penarth. Ask God to bless this ministry.

Friday 14th

Today two famous events are celebrated, the Battle of the Boyne and Bastille Day. Pray for the leaderships in Northern Ireland and France to be led by God in justice, equity and truth. Pray for the recently elected President of France, for wisdom, leadership and integrity.

Saturday 15th (St Swithun's Day)

Swithun was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester and subsequently patron saint of Winchester Cathedral. Born: Hampshire Died: 2 July 862 AD, Winchester Buried: Old Minster, Winchester. Today is St Swithun's day, which reminds us of rain. Pray for places where rain is a rare event, and for those people who do not have a source of clean drinking water. Pray for efforts to extend water availability by Christian and other organisations. Give thanks if you enjoy a tap in your house.

Sunday 16th

Pray for those in need who attend services in Tabs today. Let them be identified and helped in whatever way is appropriate.

Monday 17th

Holiday Club - Guardians of Ancora! - will be held between 24th– 28th July. Pray for Claire Grafton and all those involved.

Tuesday 18th

Please pray for those who have been at the Baptist College and are now facing doing ministry for real. Pray for all the men and women from Tabs studying, looking for placements and now in pastorates.

Wednesday 19th

Remember to pray for all involved in Breakfast Club and the Pharaoh's Pantry food distribution at Arcot House every Wednesday.

Thursday 20th

Tonight members from Tabs will be doing the Paradise Run in Cardiff. Pray for their ministry and for those to whom they minister.

Friday 21st

Some of the young people from Tabs will be going to Soul Survivor next month. Please pray for Naomi Best as she takes on this task, and for those who will participate, some of whom may never have been away from home before.

Saturday 22nd

Please remember the work of the Gideons as they place scripture in different places. Pray for 'Blitz' campaigns which visit one place for a specified time with a large team and go to many places in the same locality.

Sunday 23rd

Please pray for the Sunday School and everyone involved. Give thanks for dedicated teachers who look after kids every week and do the preparations as well. Give thanks for Gaynor Haldenby who oversees the whole enterprise.

Monday 24th

Give thanks for those who visit the sick, housebound and lonely. Ask God to bless those who get visited, the deacon who runs the rota and everyone involved.

Tuesday 25th

Pray for the guys at TWAM collecting tools to send overseas. Ask God to send along a few more volunteers.

Wednesday 26th

The summer can be hard on those who are housebound because they cannot go out and enjoy themselves like everyone else. Please pray for those who are Tabs members – see current news sheet.

Thursday 27th

Think of someone you would like to pray for and bring them before God today.

Friday 28th

Ask God to prod those He is calling to volunteer for helping with the youth outreach. Ask God to lead those He is calling to volunteer for the new academic year in September.

Saturday 29th

Please pray for someone in an overseas situation that you know about. Perhaps a situation no one else will pray for today.