

Tuesday 29th

As the new term starts over the next few weeks, please pray for children, parents, leaders and helpers in Playgroup, Toddler Group, Sunday School and Young People's activities in Tabs

Wednesday 30th

Please pray for someone near the end of their life. Uphold someone whose relative died recently.

Thursday 31st

Pray for peace. Wherever there is war raging in the world ask God to end it and bring peace.

KISC* Kathmandu International Study Centre

WEC* Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade.

Contributions can be sent to

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

Thought for the Month

Technology

Are you one of those people who refuse to 'do' technology? Do you still want everything to be as it used to be, no change in the familiar things as they have 'always' been? Or on the other hand are you one of those much maligned people whose life revolves around 'tech'? Do you always have your nose glued to a smart phone, use electronic devices to do everything, sit at a desk all day and never do exercise? Each of these attitudes can have an upside and a down side. If you refuse to use social media then you miss out on news of family and friends, find getting some services impossible, but you do miss all the advertising garbage as well. If you only pay attention to a screen then you miss out on human contact, and 'enjoy' all the advertising crud as well.

When it comes to information about places, people and situations which you may be interested in, then using electronic tech can have a large part to play, as well as the traditional paper routes. There are many places in the world where owning a bible for example is downright dangerous, but getting it on a mobile phone, which can be deleted if necessary, is a much safer option. Radio has been used for many years to broadcast the gospel message on short wave to 'closed countries'. This has resulted in many people becoming Christians over the years. Today satellite television goes to places where missionaries cannot enter. Whole churches have been fostered as a result of such activities, despite the attempts of authorities to shut down such outreach.

When praying this month ask God how you can use 'tech' to improve your prayer life. Is there an 'app' which you can subscribe to on your phone to get information to make your prayer more effective? If you have to ask your children or grandchildren about this, you may enthuse them to use such apps as well.

tabernacle : penarth

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

prayer diary : august 2017

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and
forever. (Hebrews 13:8)

In this month's 'Thought for the Month' on the back page of this Prayer Diary, John Stansfield asks whether you are one of those people who 'refuse to do technology.' I have to admit that I am a bit of a technophile, and love a good new gadget! With most things technological, I am an 'early adaptor.'

However, I still feel that modern life and change in society in general is moving much faster than I can cope with sometimes. New legislation and regulations around everything from building work to making a cup of coffee in church can make life more difficult than it needs to be. The amount of red tape involved in every area of church life is exhausting, and then there are the wider changes in culture around us which I just cannot get comfortable with. My children accuse me of being grumpy every time there is a story in the paper around modern sexuality, but the truth is that the modern conversation in the media about gender change and sexual choices both baffles (and angers) me at times. It just seems to me that the world has gone mad, and personal preference and gratification is now exalted over any idea of corporate good or responsibility. In those moments of confusion and hurt, it is good to remind ourselves that God does not change, and Jesus Christ is the same today, yesterday and forever. I take some comfort in that!

Roger Grafton

Tuesday 1st

On the first day of the height of summer pray for those on holiday, good weather, travelling safety and safe return for new service.

Wednesday 2nd

Remember to pray for a 'carer' today. They seldom get a day off, work 24 hours a day, get little or no thanks and recognition and need support wherever possible.

Thursday 3rd

The Link Scheme run by the Pastoral Care team over the summer provides opportunity to meet together and have fellowship. Pray for those hosting, organising and using this service.

Friday 4th

Remember to pray for Angus & Helen and their children, wherever they are in the world.

Remember the building of the new school at KISC*, pray for the fundraising effort to complete this project.

Saturday 5th

Using time to meditate on God's word can bring spiritual benefits when there is quiet and peace, like when on holiday. Ask God for a suitable opportunity.

Sunday 6th (The Transfiguration)

Pray for anyone visiting Tabs today on holiday. Ask God to quicken the meeters and greeters, make people welcome if you sit near them too.

Monday 7th

RLNI and other rescue services see increased use over the summer as holiday makers use maritime and mountainous regions for recreation. Give thanks for dedicated volunteers who risk life and limb to rescue those in trouble. Pray for local lifeboats in Penarth & Barry.

Tuesday 8th

In a few weeks the students at the Baptist College will reassemble for a new term. Please pray for continuing and new students, academic and support staff and members of the Council who govern the place.

Wednesday 9th

Please pray for new and past graduates from the College. For example John Hall recently moved from Caldicot, near Newport to Rhondda after 17 years. Pray for Jon & Emma Birch near Church Village, Gareth Davidson at Chepstow and anyone else you know.

Thursday 10th

Pray today for newly elected MPs at Westminster. Ask God to give them wisdom, humility and purpose to govern the country well.

Friday 11th

There are no youth activities run in the church in August. However young people still need to be prayed for and upheld before God. Pray for a young person you may know today. Remember those who are preparing to go to Soul Survivor next Saturday (19th)

Saturday 12th

Please pray for the church where to be a Christian, can cost everything. Pray for Christians being persecuted in Northern Kenya, Somalia, and Eritrea by the Islamist terror group Al-Shabab. Ask God for protection from armed terror attacks.

Sunday 13th

Please pray today for someone who could benefit from using technology, but has difficulty. (See piece at the end).

Monday 14th

WEC* fosters short term 'treks' for young people and older volunteers to go to countries for a few weeks. They usually get involved in kids outreaches, building projects or other useful jobs. Pray for WECtrek (wec-uk.org) and the young people testing God's call on their lives today.

Tuesday 15th

Pray for those involved in worship at Tabs today. Let the name of Jesus be honoured in

the services today.

Wednesday 16th

Remember some of the Anglican parishes in Penarth: St Augustine's, All Saints, Holy Nativity, St Peter's Old Cogan, St John Sully, St Andrews Dinas Powys and St Dochdwy Llandough. Ask God to bless their witness, outreach and ministry.

Thursday 17th

Volunteers from Tabs will be operating on the Paradise Run in Cardiff today. Pray for them while doing this ministry.

Friday 18th

Street Pastors have become part of the street furniture after dark in cities & towns around the world. Pray for organiser Jackie Bradshaw and all the street pastors operating in Cardiff.

Saturday 19th

During holidays many churches use itinerant preachers to fill their pulpits. Remember those who serve churches all around the area from Tabs. Ask God to bless the churches where they go to minister.

Sunday 20th

Doubt is not talked about much these days, but many people have doubts about faith. Ask God to help, guide and support those who need help to resolve doubts in the spiritual journey.

Monday 21st

Pray for those who are sick or housebound. These folk do not usually get holidays due to their health problems. Pray for them from the list in the summer newsletter. Also remember those who visit on behalf of the church to bring company and a smile to these folk.

Tuesday 22nd

Remember Roger, Claire, Owen, Lindsey and pray they will be refreshed for the start of the new session.

Wednesday 23rd

Revival should be on every Christian's prayer list. Pray today for revival somewhere unlikely like: Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen, Egypt or Libya.

Thursday 24th

Pay particular attention to Mums today. By now looking forward to sending the kids back to school. Pray for a Mum you may know today.

Friday 25th

Exam results for A level, GCSE and University will mostly be known by now. Ask God to guide young people faced with choices about their future career, academic or other occupation. Pray particularly about anyone you know.

Saturday 26th

Pray for a situation of your choice today.

Sunday 27th

If you had or are having a nice holiday, give thanks to God for the means, the opportunity and the break from work.

Monday 28th (Bank Holiday)

Take time out to meditate on the Word. Maybe add a few minutes to your quiet time and read that article which got put to one side. Enjoy God on what should be a 'holy day'.