

Ask God to end the bloodshed and hate in this New Year.

### **Tuesday 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. Pray for young people from Tabs away at college.

### **Wednesday 30th**

Ask God to refresh or regenerate mid-week ministries in Tabs, to put the church to better community use during the day.

### **Thursday 31st**

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.

UCCF\* Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship

Contributions can be sent to [john.stansfield5@btinternet.com](mailto:john.stansfield5@btinternet.com) or left in the pigeon hole before 7th of the month.

### **Thought for the Month Winning the Jackpot**

Listening to a radio interviewer recently asking people what they would do if they won a large amount of money the usual answer was to spend it on themselves or their family. No one said they would see what could be done for the less well off, the poor or those out on the street. Jesus had a lot to say about the poor and the relief of want. The Mosaic Law was full of examples of where Israel was told to leave something for the poor, like when Ruth gleaned in the fields for her and Naomi. In past times in Britain the church was charged with looking after the poor, by levying a tax on all the households in a parish. Today the government is supposed to look after the poor, but the practical outworking of that policy leaves a lot to be desired. As winter bites what efforts are you involved in to help those who are less fortunate than most?

'Just getting by' is the thing that most people have to do today. Efforts like the foodbank, Home Access, CAP ministries, Job Club, Paradise Run and other initiatives are all valid responses to Jesus' command to love others. Please pray this month for the ministries you know about, which try to help those in poverty and need. Ask God what you could do or contribute towards on an ongoing basis.

# tabernacle : penarth

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

## prayer diary : january 2019

Verse for the Year

"God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

David was a man well acquainted with life's troubles. Throughout his early life he had struggled and been persecuted as he tried to be obedient to God's calling. He faced homelessness, wars, betrayal and became an asylum seeker in a foreign land. During his reign he fell into sin and was subsequently chastised by God at great personal cost. Yet he wrote that God is both a refuge and a strength, always present in times of trouble. He knew that God doesn't always lift us out of trouble, or remove life's difficulties. But he also knew that God is always present, strengthening us and supporting us in the battle.

2018 has been a tough year for the church. There are no promises that 2019 will be any easier. We don't know what the New Year will bring, and we don't know where we will be as 2019 draws to an end. But we can be confident that whatever comes - triumph or hardship - God is an ever present help; a refuge and a strength.

**Pastor Roger**

### **Tuesday 1st (New Year's Day)**

If you had a good Christmas, then give thanks to God for all the good things you enjoyed.

### **Wednesday 2nd**

This week and next week normal service will resume in many places, school, work, college, so ask God to bless those who seek to witness for Him in their daily lives in such places.

### **Thursday 3rd**

Please remember Tabs members who participate in the Paradise Run ministry, who will be out on the streets tonight.

### **Friday 4th**

Today give thanks for a warm home, roof over your head and food on the table. Pray for those less well off, (see piece at the end).

### **Saturday 5th**

Please pray for those who have gone from Tabs into full time service. Pray for those who have offered themselves for training, ask God to anoint their efforts.

### **Sunday 6th (Epiphany)**

Think about foreigners today. Three wise men visited Jesus and were welcomed, so let us do the same today. Remember the International Café, pray for the ministry of Friend's International running outreach events to overseas students.

### **Monday 7th**

Please pray for the ladies in 'Women's Hour' meeting today.

### **Tuesday 8th**

This time eight years ago the church was being asked to pray for South Sudan. Since then there has been unending civil war, so pray for peace in the newest country in Africa.

### **Wednesday 9th**

The Leadership Council meets today, so please pray for all the Elders and Deacons as they gather to consider the needs of the church.

### **Thursday 10th**

Please pray for Helen and Angus as they work with BMS. They have many things to do and consider. Ask God to bless them and their children, provide for their needs, keep them safe and facilitate their ministry.

### **Friday 11th**

Death comes at any time and sometimes the loneliness and mourning get forgotten in the rush of life. Remember some of the relatives of those in the church who passed away recently.

### **Saturday 12th**

Pray for your favourite outreach activity today. Remember those who go to support small churches around the district who will be polishing their sermons today.

### **Sunday 13th**

Remember the other Baptist Churches in the area today: Stanwell Rd, Dinas Powys, Eden, Llandough and in Barry & Cardiff. Pray for their outreach, ministry and witness.

### **Monday 14th**

Ask God to refresh the vision for prayer among Tabs members. Pray for an invigorated programme led from the front.

### **Tuesday 15th**

Remember the home visitors who go to see those people who are housebound, infirm, old, and lonely. Pray for the visitors, and their clients.

### **Wednesday 16th**

Christians Against Poverty has become a strategic partner for Tabs in the ministries run from Arcot House. Ask God to bless the partnership and the outworking in Tabs.

### **Thursday 17th**

Please pray for a subject close to your heart today - someone sick, a lonely person, a 'thank you' to God for a blessing, & etc.

### **Friday 18th**

Pray today for the youth outreaches which take place on Friday evenings. Ask God to bless their efforts, give them a safe and enjoyable club and remember those who lead, those who support and the kids and their parents.

### **Saturday 19th**

Think of the wider church today. Pray in particular for Montagnard Christians from Vietnam, who have sought refuge in Thailand. They are being persecuted by their own government, and put in detention camps in Thailand as well. Pray that God will sustain them in their troubles.

### **Sunday 20th**

Start worship today by putting right any snarled up relationships in the Church which you need to sort out. Ask God for grace and humility to do the right thing.

### **Monday 21st**

Pray today for those who are sick, a list is in the newsletter.

### **Tuesday 22nd**

Please pray for the Small, Alpha and Bible study groups who meet on different days through the week.

### **Wednesday 23rd**

Remember to pray for the weekly Breakfast Club at Arcot House. Pray for the staff of Home Access who are involved with many of the clients of the Food Bank as well.

### **Thursday 24th**

Pray for something which you find difficult to deal with today, like suffering, war, famine. Ask God to help you see Him in such situations.

### **Friday 25th**

'Operation Cyrus' is a worldwide initiative to pray for North Korea. This is the world's most repressive Stalinist regime in terms of suffering and misery. Pray for change to come to N. Korea in whatever way God sees fit.

### **Saturday 26th**

Pray today for those who will take part in Tabs services tomorrow. Ask God to bless the preacher, reader, sound desk operators, greeters, caterers and all involved.

### **Sunday 27th**

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 and the other staff today.

### **Monday 28th**

Pray for peace in the Middle East. Pray for millions of displaced Syrians in the middle of winter, ask God to provide for their needs.