

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" Proverbs 3:5-6



<http://www.folkestonebaptistchurch.org/>

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## Prayer points

### Pastoral:

#### *In Hospital:*

Rehabilitation: making good progress

*At home:* Edith, Madeleine, Gloria, Chris, Ruth, Wilf A, Pauline S. Di & Harold H. Bunny, Sue B.

#### *Friends and Family:*

Barbara J. Doreen W. Pauline S. Cloudie and Tracy

Pray for the Church Finances, the Fellowship and the Leadership Team in the discernment of the ongoing vision and how best to use members of the fellowship. The need for volunteers in the many areas of FBC ministry.

**Roads around FBC:** Browning Place ; Capel: Clarence Road.

**Local:** Pray for local politicians that may work together for the people of Folkestone

**National:** Pray that the weak and vulnerable will remain safe at this time with the cold weather and snow. Those working to rescue people from the sea in Withernsea

**International:** Pray those injured in the Fire in Switzerland, and the families of those that have lost loved ones. The end to the conflicts in Yemen, Palestine, Sudan, Ukraine Cambodia/Thailand and many more countries; for the families of those killed or kidnapped in Nigeria; that there will be no escalation of hostilities in Iran and Venezuela; families mourning lost ones following the sinking of a boat carrying migrants off Gambia; for Christian health care workers in Cuba; For those still recovering from natural disasters and extremes of weather.

## Time for a Challenge

2026 entered with the explosion of fireworks across the world as people partied to welcome the new year. Many people will make a New Year's resolution or two, and many will not be kept for very long. Do you make any new year's resolutions? Are they a challenge? Do we ever challenge ourselves to become more like God, to do more for His kingdom and determine to speak to our family, neighbours and colleagues about Him?

Are we too frightened or embarrassed about what others might say or how they will react? Would we rather keep our friends in this world rather than work for His Kingdom? Do we admit defeat and say, I do not know how to? Or come off it God, do you really understand what this will do to me?

God understands and has given us the resources to complete the challenge if we wish to. Think of it this way – 5 steps to deliver the good news of the Gospel. God created the world, Man has damaged it and the relationship with God, God sent His Son to repair the damage, then what is the result if God is ignored and What is the result if god is accepted? Training over!

Oswald Chambers writes "My determined purpose is to be my utmost for His highest – my best for His glory." Are you ready to take this challenge and focus on God and do your utmost for his glory in 2026?

## Notices

**No extra notices this week.**

### BMS Prayer News

Give thanks for Jimmy Okello and his family and their commitment to serve the church in Uganda; for the work of Justice Livelihoods Health; give thanks for the churches in Gulu, northern Uganda who are using the community mobilisation process to facilitate change in their communities; the churches in Uganda will be the salt and light to their local communities; pray for Jimmy and his family's safety and health as they travel across country; pray for the 45 graduates of Lalar BC from the Church Engagement Programme; thank God for the growth of the church in Uganda.

## Midday Prayers

The Prayer meeting on Wednesday is now on **Thursday** – same place, same time

**'Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it.'" (Isaiah 30:21)**

Are you willing to Pray of London City Missionary this year?

Find out more at

[lcm.org.uk/missionaries](http://lcm.org.uk/missionaries)

## Volunteers Required

**Sunday Collection counting team**

**Sunday Coffee/Tea Rota**

## SEBA Leaders' and Ministers' Conference

We are delighted to announce details of our Leaders' and Ministers' Conference 2026.

**NB. Bookings close on 23 January 2026.**

**11am Tuesday 24 February to 2pm Thursday 26 February 2026**

**Navigating Change: Faithfully steering into tomorrow**

## Four Seasons and Dying For Sex

**Now your attention has been grabbed: read on!**

Two for one! In *Four Seasons and Dying for Sex* *hunt all of life for meaning*, critic Giles Gough dissects two dramas that intertwine mortality, desire, and the search for meaning. The review highlights their cyclical structure that mirror human longing, while also questioning whether art can truly capture the fullness of life's seasons.

## Regular Church Events

Tuesday: House Groups

Wednesday: Prayer Pause 12pm

Thursday: Community Lunch 12pm  
Music Practice: 7:45pm  
House Group (10:30 am) and Messy Vintage (3:00pm) alternate weeks in Capel

Friday: Craft Club: 2-4pm 1st Friday of the month

Saturday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month – Messy Church 3:00-4:30 Capel

Sunday: Church Service 10:30 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – All Age Service  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Communion

**Ladies' Socials:** See notices

## Prayer Box

If you would like prayer for someone or something; please leave a request in the prayer box (near the Dover Road entrance). All requests will be dealt with in confidence

**Prayers at Noon:** Come to the church and pray together at 12 noon, or pray for the church where you are. Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January Psalm 100

## For the Runners amongst you

<https://www.seenandunseen.com/couch-81-year-old-monk-races-life>

## Contact Information

### Pastoral matters:

#### Pastor:

Rev. Katy Ruddle 01303252916;  
Church Contact Details: 07808 728670  
Email: [info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org](mailto:info@folkestonebaptistchurch.org)

Pam Barr (Capel) 07444 325426

### Room hire/use:

**FBC:** Administrator: 07808 728670

**Capel:** Pam Barr 07444 325426

### News Letter:

David Smithard  
Email by Thursday please. [galafrei@icloud.com](mailto:galafrei@icloud.com)

Weekly news sheets and sermons are now available on our website.

### Full fibre broadband at Hill Road

Wifi: 'WorshipWifi'; password: 'alphaandomega'.