

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” Romans 15:13



Folkestone Baptist Church
LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, MAKE DISCIPLES

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

Edition 296

3rd May 2026



Prayer points

Pastoral:

In Hospital:

Rehabilitation: making good progress

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

Friends and Family:

Barbara J. Doreen W ; Katy's mother

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: Montgomery Way; Capel: Bracknell House

Local: Pray that Christians can place their Trust in the Lord.

National: Pray for Jewish citizens, especially those who were injured this week; that political parties will respect those of the Christian faith.

International: Pray for Christians in Mozambique who have escaped from Islamic State; pray that brutal attacks by Islamic fighters across the world will stop; attacks continue in Burkina Faso; give thanks for the resilience of Christians in Syria; for the work of Tearfund in West Africa and Latin America; pray for peace in Lebanon, Gaza and Iran; give thanks that the Pope has been able to speak out for the Gospel; for all those in countries affected by floods and other natural disasters. Remember Manipur

Notices

Saturdays: Ladies Socials – see notice

May

9th May Saturday: Christian Aid and Ladies' Social

7-18th: Minister on Leave

10-16th: Christian Aid week

10th Sunday: Cakes after the service (to buy)

23rd Saturday: Africa Day

24th Sunday: Claire Bedford visiting Hill Road
6pm CTF Cheriton Baptist Church

Partners in Mission

It was a great experience to join with others from across our Association (SEBA) for the Partners in Mission conference last weekend. It was particularly encouraging to hear stories of God working amongst Baptists in the South East as well as have a chance to sharpen up some of our skills. Then Joth came to present about the Partners in Mission scheme after the service on Sunday. So our weekend had a theme running through it.

It can sometimes feel that Jesus' call to share the gospel and show his love rather daunting. That's particularly the case if we think that we have to accomplish the task alone. That's why we are in churches - so we can encourage each other. It's good to know that we can also be encouraged by our fellow churches, across the Baptist world, and even wider than that.

I attended the ministers' lunch for Churches Together in Folkestone on Tuesday. It was a really good time of sharing and praying together. When all is said and done, Jesus only has one church. Whatever our differences we really are partners in the gospel. I'm glad to see competitiveness and proud suspicion breaking down, and have often had cause to be grateful for a brother or sister in Christ who has come alongside me.

I'm so grateful for your partnership in the Gospel this week.

The Housing crises is reshaping our social lives.

Read more

<https://www.seenandunseen.com/housing-crisis-reshaping-our-social-lives>

BMS Prayer News

Praise God for BMS workers Andrea and Ian as they work with others to take the gospel to areas where evangelism is dangerous; pray that websites are kept secure and online persecution is overcome; pray for those who suffer personal and societal costs for their belief; pray for partnerships between churches and believers and mistrust will be overcome; pray that new leaders can be identified and trained; pray that the persecuted church can be resilient and remember that God is their rock; that the church will grow despite adversity and that political pressures will not harm the workers. Thank God that He is stronger than any politician.

Christian Aid Week: 10–16 May 2026



This year, we are supporting families in Nairobi, Kenya, who are struggling with food poverty. Your donations help partners like Beacon of Hope provide vital urban farming tools and training to those in need.

Donations: Please use the envelopes provided.

Cake & Coffee: Stay after the service for refreshments and treats,

Bakers Wanted: If you can provide a cake, please speak to Sheila.

Prize Quiz: Entry is just £1—pick up a sheet for a chance to win.

Sponsor a Hymn: Nominate a favourite throughout the month of May.

Wear to Share: This Saturday (9 May), find pre-loved clothes in exchange for a donation.

Claire Bedford Visit

Sunday 24th May

News Letter in the Foyer

Africa Day: 23rd May. Includes Lunch Organised by African heritage Christians resident in Folkestone.

Folkestone Baptist Church. RSVP to 07741 550524.

Ministers Annual and Study Leave

7-13th May: Annual Leave

14-18th May: Baptist Assembly

Baptist Assembly

Harrogate 15th-17th May

Pray that this will be a really encouraging conference and in particular pray for Katy and Emma who are representing us this year.

Ladies Social Events

All occur on Saturdays

9th May 3pm - 6pm Share to Wear for Christian Aid

4th July 2pm - 5pm Walk and Talk

19th September 7pm - 9pm Singing and Sausages

7th November 3pm - 5pm Relax, Refresh, Recharge

December 3pm - 6pm Christmas Crafts

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 (2:30pm) alternate weeks in Capel

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

Men's Group: 11am Chat and Bible study. Clifton Hotel

Saturday: 2nd Saturday of the month – Messy Church 3:00-4:30: Capel
Prayer breakfast 9:30 Last Saturday of the month. Capel.

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

Ladies' Socials: See notices

Prayer Box

If 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 11:30am, or pray for the church where you are. Thursday 7th May Psalm 116

Biblical Preaching: Peter Mead

<https://biblicalpreaching.net/2026/05/01/wilderness-temptations-in-ministry/>

Contact Information

Pastoral matters:

Pastor:

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News Letter: David Smithard

Email by Thursday please. galafrei@icloud.com

Weekly news sheets and sermons available on the website.

Full fibre broadband at Hill Road

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