

GORLESTON BAPTIST CHURCH – FNS – 2020



We are so pleased Hans, that you are now with the Lord you love. Godbless, my friend.

It's a joy to see so many people joining in on Sundays via the Zoom app, no matter how chaotic it is at times!

It feels good to be a family again, and to see so many of you.

From the Leadership Team

A prayer from Numbers 6:26

"May the Lord bless you and protect you; May the Lord's face radiate with joy because of you " God is good and has protected us from the coronavirus. He has preserved us from all harm, as Psalm 91 declared.

Again it's been good to hear that the care and love of the fellowship to one another is still happening. Phone calls, texts, zoom and George and Lindy's letters to the whole family. Brilliant and well done.

The food bank led by Liz continues to do an amazing job to the community. The coronavirus is bringing the very best out of people and it's wonderful to see.

We mourn the passing of Doreen Saggars from a personal point of view but rejoice that she is now in heaven with Jesus, healthy and happy. We continue to pray for Roberta and the rest of the family.

Tribute to Hans

Hans was a man on fire for the Lord and a great prayer warrior. He loved the Lord with all his heart and all he wanted was for the name of Jesus to be lifted high at all times. He had a passion for prayer and would earnestly seek the Lord on your behalf if you ever asked him to pray for you.

Hans wanted miracles! He wanted miracles of healing, of tongues, of revival, of power, of a church on fire for his beloved God. We will miss his passion.

Very slowly the lockdown is easing. We will keep you informed of any decisions by the government on the opening of the churches but we don't anticipate anything happening in the very near future.

We pray God's continual blessings and protection over each and every one of us.

GBC BIRTHDAYS - JUNE

June 16 th	Kyron Smith
June 17 th	Tyrone Powell
June 23 rd	Benjamin Ayuba
June 27 th	Pat Paine
June 28 th	Scott Hammond

TO CONTACT GBC

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TO LISTEN to past sermons or for more news: log onto our website at: www.gorlestonbaptist.org.uk

GBC is also on Facebook, Twitter and Google

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Gorleston Baptist Prayer List

We pray for Duncan & Annie, Arthur & Marion, Peter & Pat. Chris Townson.
We pray for Jean, Claire, Nicola, Mano, Angie, Kieana and Anne McPherson.

We pray for Gemma, Tyrone, Kirk, Tom & Heather and the family of Doreen Saggars.

We also pray for those over 70 years, and those with underlying health conditions, who are self-solating.

We pray for all the volunteers working within Great Yarmouth Foodbank: those at our own church, and those at St Mary Magdalene and the Salvation Army.

We pray for all who collect, and pack the food parcels.

Finally, we pray for the Emergency Delivery Team based at St Mary Magdalene, and our own delivery team at GBC.

May we all be given the opportunities to show God's love to all.

A Prayer for the Troubled Heart

Dear God,

Our world is hurting and broken.

We pray for those who have lost loved ones this week, please comfort them in their grief and loss, cover them with your peace and presence, as only your Spirit can do.

We know that in whatever we face, you are our Peace and Refuge, a very present help in times of trouble.

Thank you that you remind us throughout your Word, we do not face the storms alone, but you are always with us.

Whispering calm. Speaking peace.
Bringing rest to our souls.

We confess our need for you.

We ask you to forgive us for trying to figure everything out on our own, for not trusting that you are more than able and powerful to work on our behalf.

Forgive us for picking back up what we already determined to lay down at your feet. Give us the ability to trust you more, give us a heart that finds rest in your presence, give us the wisdom to seek peace and pursue it, remembering it's only to be found in you alone.

Thank you that your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Thank you that you care for us.

Thank you that the peace of your loving and strong presence guards and protects our hearts and minds in you.

Thank you that we do not have to walk in fear or live in overwhelmed cycles of worry and stress.

Thank you for your voice that breaks through the greatest wind and storm swirling around us, and whispers "Peace, be still."

Thank you that you sent your One and Only Son to set us free.

In the Mighty Name of Jesus,
Amen.

Debbie McDaniel (Crosswalk)

PRAYER REPORT - May 2020

Despite the lock down, the prayer team have been very busy. We have had many prayer requests come in from people using the foodbank and a few of our own members. There are have been one or two answers to prayer, but many are ongoing.

If you have any prayer requests, please send via email to me at pat.paine1@talktalk.net and I will ensure that any requests will be shared with the prayer team only so as to abide with confidentiality. Pat Paine

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Junior Church on Zoom!

Junior Church has gone online and even international as we meet one of our Blaze members all the way from Spain! Many of us hadn't even heard of the social networking platform *Zoom* until a few weeks ago but here we are relying on it to meet, even for our Sunday services! I'm sure I'm not the only one who is thankful for such technology at this time! Junior Church has been meeting on *Zoom* for a few weeks now as lockdown has continued.

We thought meeting online would be a good way for the children to interact and stay involved within community, as well as hearing the good news! And don't we all need to hear some good news in these times! After talking through our different situations and challenges through this lockdown period, the young people, as well as acknowledging the hardships and suffering, came up with a list of positives including being able to spend more time with family (a mixed response!), still being able to catch up with friends through technology, giving the earth some much needed breathing space (with our wildlife taking over normally urban areas) and the many acts of kindness that we hear about locally and globally.

We also pray for all our amazing carers in our church, those working in our Foodbank team and our NHS within our congregation. With such a positive response from our first meeting we decided to meet every week looking at Jesus' miracles. It is good to be reminded of Jesus' power, care and love during such times, from the big things, such as healing the paralytic to the extravagant, when He provided wine for the wedding at Cana. Our God is one of healing and His grace abounds!

I have been made acutely aware of the challenge that has confronted us as disciples of Jesus during this time and that the need, now more than ever, is to be faithful disciples. Someone recently told me that being a disciple is like being an apprentice. An apprentice will watch their

master carefully, will spend time learning from their master with the end goal to become more like their master. We need to spend time with Jesus, learning from Him and becoming more like Him as we witness to the world with the help of the Holy Spirit.

I asked God why this was on my heart during lockdown. Surely now that we are forced to stay in our homes the act of witnessing to the world is harder! But God reminded me that the world is watching our response. People see the way we live, the words we use, the help we offer. Through technology we can still communicate, so I urge you, that those of us with the hope of the gospel, continue to spread it! As we talked about during one of our Junior church classes last week, if you have some good news you don't keep it to yourself, why would you want to? You want people to share in that good news too! There are so many people in our streets, in the supermarkets, in our own families even, that need to hear it! Don't just keep it to yourself. Go and share it! (Matthew 28:19-20)

I pray that we will stay true to the gospel message, confronting all that needs to be challenged and bearing witness to all those who need to hear the good news that God through Jesus has redeemed us and is making all things new! Let us embrace the fact that people are asking questions and seeking comfort and truth during this pandemic. Let us be a people living out our faith in Spirit and truth, eager to tell people the good news that we have, let us be people of the gospel witnessing to God's love and truth so that more will turn and return to their loving Father.

I have drawn up some prayer pointers that I hope are helpful as we pray for our young people. These are by no means exhaustible but are perhaps the most poignant at this time.

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- Please pray for those young people who are struggling with the uncertainties over missed exams such as SAT's, GCSE's and A levels due to the corona virus.
- Please pray for those young people who are feeling anxious about what's happening around them and are feeling fearful and isolated. Some of whom will feel the effects of the covid-19 pandemic first hand.
- Please pray for our local young people that they will be able to engage with initiatives on *Zoom* through Junior Church and Identity youth Projects. Please pray that these children will continue to interact with God's Word and community of faith. Please also pray for those who lead our youth and volunteer as we continue to teach by means that is perhaps out of our comfort zones.
- Please pray for direction as our youth embark on home schooling and also pray for parents as they navigate juggling other children, jobs etc as well as the new role of home schooling.
- Please pray for those children who live in environments that are unsafe, unstable and threatening. For some children going to school was a place of refuge.
- Please ask for God's protection.

God bless,

The Junior Church team!

Identity Youth Project

Dear Supporters and Praying Friends, these last weeks have presented us with a surprising opportunity in youth ministry.

These last weeks have presented us with a surprising opportunity in youth ministry. Young people have time on their hands, a need for interaction and a love of technology! This is a great combination, especially when Matt Ashpole is leading your youth work!

So the young people have been able to access all kinds of online activities and interactions with one another through YouTube videos and through Zoom gatherings.

You can have a window into what is available (and can be shared with young people you know) by clicking here. (<https://identityyouth.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8cc0a11c491bbba6c1948726b&id=bbdf2bfc3f&e=e40afb6640>)

The most popular YouTube videos have been the Daily Devotional and the Friday Funday (with the Workout Wednesdays close behind!). It seems to me this reflects wonderfully their desire for God but also their need to laugh in these trying times.

We understand these are being viewed by youth from Cromer to Tanzania, along with our 'own' youth in Gorleston.

The Daily Devotionals have been creatively put together with themes from life leading into the Wod.

John Quinn has kindly produced some recently if you would like to check them out!

Our Identity team have been up to all sorts of ridiculous antics in producing the Friday Funday videos – there's no surprise the youth love them.

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Central (our main gathering of believing youth) has been meeting twice a week on Zoom, during this lock down period, instead of once a month in person!

In many ways this has therefore enabled far more interaction, fun and teaching than before and, opportunities for relationships to grow between young people and their leaders.

The Zip Bible study has had a higher attendance (100% increase) than before lock down and is now weekly rather than fortnightly. They are currently working through Galatians.

So I hope you get a sense of why we feel excited about what the Lord is doing in our young people during this time. Please do celebrate and give thanks with us.

We ask that you pray for the following challenges we face:

- We are struggling to engage on Zoom the youth who would have come to outreach groups, i.e. Mags and Seven. Pray for breakthrough.
- Some young people find Zoom impossibly difficult to engage with and so are very isolated from Christian support as well as school friends. Pray for them especially.
- Over time, there is no doubt that the restrictions on seeing one another physically and interacting in a normal way, will become an increasing challenge to relationships growing well. Pray that this online ministry may flourish for as long as it is needed.

Finally, give thanks with us for the successful application to the Diocese for a significant contribution towards ongoing funding.

This is particularly warmly received when we know finances are difficult there.

We have another application in process with the John James Trust, so let's pray for that and for others to see the opportunities presented in youth ministry during this otherwise restriction period.

With thanks to you for your care-coveting prayers during this time.

In Christ, who sustains us.

Anna
(Chair of Trustees)

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMEA-PqSulq79vFns51vOiA?view_as=subscriber

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11149275

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Great Yarmouth FoodBank

2 Corinthians 10: 8

We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair.

The imagery belongs to a soldier on active service sometimes that is just how it felt to be doing church over the last 10 weeks.

Just when I was about to change gear change direction completely with new things the Lord showed me, He had other plans.

Early in March I had a dream (note I very rarely dream); it was of a sinkhole in Gorleston which needed the police and council to sort, and with lots of us driving cars around delivering food to doorsteps.

In the dream I was directing the traffic. I believe God was showing the foodbank would be needed to set up a delivery system in partnership with the local services.

I thought that's weird - who is going to believe me if I pass this on. Felt the Lord say to share with the ministry breakfast that week. They went for it and by the end of the week (15th March) had established the Gorleston emergency relief service; the rest is history.

I remember going on Radio Norfolk and they said wow you guys are well organised! And I wanted to shout that has to be God then!! I was too timid. Sorry, Lord.

He has provided the local resources, the food, the money, the volunteers to cover the scheme completely. He has been amazing. I can see His hand all the way through. This is now winding down.

At its peak, it had a100 volunteers covering 70 - 80 households a week and came out of the two venues SMMG and GBC.

We are now concentrating on the Foodbank here at GBC (anything up to 60 boxes a week) and returning the premises back for church.

It has been unrecognizable at times but we have started the big restoration to return it back to normality - whatever that will be!

It has been an amazing journey. Many a time we would think where is the next load of food coming from and it would arrive that afternoon.

We started to pray specifically and sure enough it would come. Such a faith strengthener.

Lord we don't have any fruit for tomorrow and then it would arrive.
Lord we need plastic bags along came Tesco -
Lord we need PPE - along came Samaritans purse -
Lord we need to buy in bulk because the major supermarkets couldn't provide that but bless Farmfoods they had no problem helping us.

300 bags of sugar came from across the country, curries came from Wootton Bassett.

Even last week when I prayed Lord we need shampoo and gel, I guess that's asking a bit too much - two Tesco staff arrived Friday afternoon - with a load of hygiene including shampoo which the staff had clubbed together to buy for us.

There are so many stories to tell of His generosity and kindness. It has also been amazing to see the team on the ground and at home working together and growing in their own faith.

We felt like David's band of misfit men who were rapidly changing to his mighty men.

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To see Jay step up and run the logistics of it all to see; Joke manage the foodbank single-handedly (with Sharon at home);

to see Doreen unscramble the accounts;
to see Yan sanitize and clean all the surfaces continually;
to see Tracy do anything asked of her;
to see Maria manage her mental health;
to see William maintain the garden;
to see young William grow up and manage the fruit window;
to have Ronni provide the encouragement and humour to keep us all going has warmed my heart.

To know you are in the center of God's will doing His thing brings a fantastic peace when all outside is uncertain and frightening.

Above all, on top of all this we believe He has kept us safe from the virus from anxiety from losing hope .



The Well has been able to continue to operate at a distance through the well-being phoning system Lily, Margaret and Trish and the prayer request team, Pat, Chris, Trish.

Maddie has been ringing around and checking on us as a team too.

They have all been there to listen and encourage those who are struggling with all the uncertainties and anxieties this lockdown has thrown up.

They have been unsung heroes.
Well done everyone.

The opportunities to share Jesus and take prayer requests are beginning to develop

- please pray for fruit to come from all that the Lord is doing because He so loves the people of this town.

We have not felt isolated or disconnected because of your prayers

- thank you all so much.



(courtesy of positivityoflife.com)

Most of all I have watched young Christians rise up and be the church and take ownership.

I am sure elsewhere in the church this is happening too - please share your stories with the rest of us on FNS..

LOTS OF LOVE XX
Liz