

"When someone is homeless the church should be very understanding, more understanding than anyone else."

George Williams became 'street homeless' in 2014. The struggles of homeless people in the UK were pushed back into the spotlight when Coronavirus started spreading here. While many people who had been living on the streets are now temporarily housed in hotels, it's unclear where they will go next. Read an interview with George at <https://www.bmsworldmission.org/news/homeless-but-not-hopeless/>

Pray for thousands of rough sleepers currently living in hotels and other temporary accommodation, and for those at risk of losing their homes due to Coronavirus. Pray that permanent solutions can be found, and that the Church can give hope, help and understanding at this time.

Some interesting articles to read:

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/Tim-Farron-How-I-m-sharing-my-faith-during-lockdown?>

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/Coronavirus-What-is-God-up-to?>

Check this out!

<https://christinecaine.brushfire.com/events/466477> for a 5-day online challenge from God's Word on how we can overcome feeling utterly overwhelmed and learn to be overwhelmed with his love.

Contacts:
Church office: closed at present
Website: www.rydebaptist.org

 @rydebaptist
Minister: Rev Kerry Birch
01983 564137
Church Secretary:
Sally Pratt
01983 641305
rydebaptistsecretary@gmail.com

Reg Charity no 1133780
All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

Please note! Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com

7/52 @ RBC

14 June 2020

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:17-19



Check out our website at www.rydebaptist.org for general updates.

Sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study are on <https://www.rydebaptist.xyz> —the Sunday supplement.



What's On

Worship at home with Premier Radio **10 am Sunday**.

BBC1 10.45 am Sunday service from Manchester and Songs of Praise at 1.15 pm

Also listen to **Pam Rhodes** on Premier Radio for Sunday Live at 6 pm, followed by Prayer of Hope from Churches Together at 7 pm. Pam Rhodes also leads a lunchtime singalong every weekday at 1 pm on Premier Radio.



Prayer broadcast with BU General Secretary Lynn Green at **7 pm** this Sunday. Prayers at 7 pm on Wednesdays.

All available at https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx

Alison hosts a coffee morning on Zoom each Thursday at 10.30 am. Please contact her on alison.ridout@btinternet.com or by phone if you would like to join so she can send you the link.

Gareth and Malou Bolton from **AMEN Trust** visited us in January. AMEN channels resources to overseas Christians and has been providing emergency supplies for many hundreds with no money and food. They have partners on the ground distributing supplies to individuals and families. The response to their COVID appeal currently stands at £40,000. If you would like to help, go to www.amentrust.co.uk

Christian Solidarity Worldwide reports:

'As coronavirus spreads, vulnerable faith groups are hit hard. In India, a Pastor was taken away by police as he preached online. This also happened in China. In Pakistan, Christians and Hindus are being denied food aid because of their faith. In central Nigeria armed men opened fire on a pastor and his family while they were praying. Imprisoned pastors in Iran were not granted temporary release despite the spread of coronavirus.

Many authoritarian governments are using the crisis to consolidate power, or intensify crackdowns. They hope their unjust actions will go unnoticed, but we have not forgotten God's injunction to "speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves" (Proverbs 31: 8).

To help, go to: <https://netdonor.net/page/59958/donate/1?>

For the story of a missionary called to work in the UK among Kurdish people, see <https://www.uk.om.org/blog/called-to-where-you-are?>

'I often stand in front of a church with a Bible in my hand. Am I using it to send a politically expedient message to my viewers? How often have I used the Bible for my own ends... to justify what I want to do or say? If it is not *whether* we use the Bible that matters, but *how* we use it, then we need to ask ourselves some difficult questions. Do I use the Bible to challenge others, without hearing it first challenge me? Do I use it to look good, instead of to do good? Do I use the Bible to remind me to stand up against injustice just when #blacklivesmatters is trending on Twitter, or all the time?'

Dr Krish Kandiah, founding director of Home for Good

'Holding the Bible or quoting from it is no sign that you have access to the truth. I'm reminded of those Old Testament prophets who spoke positivity to kings who were not following God's will. They spoke peace where there was no peace, and we can't do that. We're supposed to tell the truth and be a voice for the voiceless, dispossessed and marginalised. We claim to be the people who have the message of eternal reconciliation with God - the year of Jubilee and the year of the Lord's favour. But if we can't be trusted to bring about earthly Jubilee with economics and politics, how on earth do we think we have any hope of communicating eternal Jubilee?'

Marvin Rees, mayor since 2016 of Bristol, the first major European city to have elected a mayor of black African heritage. He has worked with Tearfund, and with Tony Campolo at Sojourners.

*Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. If you are able to give by standing order, **PLEASE** do so! Bank details are as follows:*

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102
sort code 20-60-55**

*If you usually give by cash or cheque, contact **Jim** on **810991** to arrange delivery or collection*

Offerings for **May** were as follows: Standing orders **£2126**



We are currently running at a deficit as follows:
Deficit for end of May **-£11432.42**