

News from the Mahons

Greetings, dear friends and family! We arrived safely back in Peru a few weeks ago, and it is so good to be home. The contrast from the UK winter to the intense summertime heat here is significant. Our scientists note the Pacific is warmer than usual—further evidence of weather extremes. May the Lord give us wisdom to care for what He made.

We are grateful that our dear colleagues Carlos and Betty Rodriguez made it back to Peru safely despite a difficult journey. We continue to lift up Venezuela in prayer— for good government, economic stability, and the safety of its people. We serve a God who is full of love and has great plans for these precious people. The new interim president is Jose Balcazar. Pray that corruption would be rooted out, and that those who emerge as leaders in the April elections will be servants of the people. We use the Romans 8:22-25 to guide our prayers: "We know that the whole creation has been groaning ...but if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently."

In January we attended the Peruvian Baptist Assembly in the lovely city of Cusco. We appreciated the beauty around us and the opportunity to gather with fellow believers. We heard timely teaching on the value of unity and mutual encouragement. Many departments of the Peruvian Baptist Convention shared reports (including us). One church in particular is experiencing challenges with their pastor, and this ongoing issue was raised several times. Please pray that this delicate situation will be managed with wisdom and grace. Although there was no Children's program at the assembly, our kids met and played with others and enjoyed the swimming pool at the location. The four-day gathering concluded with a city tour that many participated in – a fun time of fellowship and rest.

In February, Dave also travelled to Lima to teach a group of young people preparing to be mission workers in Peru. Over two days he shared an overview of the Old and New Testaments. Please pray for Raysy Pinedo and Camila Arambulo as they step out in obedience and faith, for the people among whom they will serve, and for the team that will support them. School also started at the end of February, and our children were nervous after their summer break; thank the Lord that they had a smooth start and are settling into their routines. Please pray that they continue to thrive.

At the beginning of March our seminary duties begin. Dave will be teaching a 16-week course on mission planning, and we will both be restarting the chaplaincy ministry there. Please pray for us and the students – that we will make a good start and be effective servants, teachers and learners.

Looking ahead, please pray for Dave as he travels to Brazil to represent BMS at the Latin American Baptist Convention conference. and in May Michele will travel with the missions board to visit newly planted churches within the Awahun indigenous community. We ask for God's wisdom and guidance as we continue planning this trip and serving these sisters and brothers.

We truly appreciate your prayers and support – thank you for standing with us! With love, The Mahon Family



The Mahon Family

Coming Up @ NBC

Ladies' Breakfast

Saturday 14th March
8.30am

[BOOK HERE](#)

First Thursday

Thursday 2nd April
12 noon

[BOOK HERE](#)

Maundy Thursday

Thursday 2nd April, 7.30pm
Thatcham Baptist Church
More details to follow - save the date!

Good Friday

Friday 3rd April , 10.30am
CTNA joint service for Good Friday at St Nic's, followed by a walk to the Methodist Church for singing and hot cross buns/refreshments

NOTICES



Second Minister Search Team Update

Unfortunately we received no applications before the first review date (28th February). This is a national date set by the Baptist Union. The next review date is 30th April.

We would like to invite you to join us for a special prayer meeting at **7.30pm on Wednesday 15th April**.

We continue to trust that God is always in control and His timing is perfect. Our prayer focus over the next weeks is for:

- our heart to rest in God's faithfulness;
- the church to grow in faith and patience;
- the church to fully trust in God's plans for NBC;
- the right person to be led by God to apply.

CAP Money coaching course

This course is designed to help people understand their spending habits and create their own personal budget. The course can help anyone including students, employed people, families, retirees and is not only for those people with unmanageable debts.

NBC is hosting the next course run by Helen and David in the welcome area from 10am - 12noon on April 15th, 22nd and 29th. Register for free [here](#)

Please invite your friends and neighbours to come along to this course. We would appreciate it if you would pray for the course and the participants.

We are in need of one or two volunteers to help us do teas and coffees for people as they arrive and about half way through at 11am. If you're able to help please contact David Clark or Helen Andrews.

COINS

As COINS (Christian Outreach in Newbury Schools) celebrates 30 years of ministry, there is much to give thanks for - including the success of "The Christmas Gift" workshops which reached 530 primary pupils across 11 schools. Current projects include Primary Connect Clubs, a growing community hub for Year 7s at Trinity School, and regular lunchtime sessions at Park House School. To support their ongoing work, they have asked churches to pray for the "Easter Eggsplored" events running this March, specifically for the logistics and the volunteers needed to share the hope of Easter with students. Also for the Secondary Connect Club at Trinity School, as they seek God's guidance on its timing and growth, and for continued great relationships with all schools throughout Newbury.

Accommodation Wanted - Newbury/Thatcham

We have a lovely Ukrainian lady living with us but since the village bus services have been cut she feels isolated and is looking to relocate into Newbury or Thatcham or in walking distance of a regular bus route. Can you help? Olena has a budget of up to £600 for a room or up to £850 for a self contained flat or annexe. She is independent and will only need use of a bathroom & kitchen facilities - shared or otherwise. If you can help then please contact Alex & Tanya Tame (Tetyana.tame@gmail.com)

Contact Us

Want to include something next week? Have something you'd like the church to pray for?

Email Emma in the Church Office by Wednesday gam: office@newburybaptistchurch.org

PRAYERS



Prayers and Reflection for the fourth week of Lent & Mothering Sunday

As we reach the Fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally a "breathing space" appears. A moment to pause and find joy even in the wilderness of Lent. We also celebrate Mothering Sunday and the love and support that sustains us. We look to the cross as not only the ultimate place of sacrifice, but as the ultimate act of love for us all.

This Week's Prayer

Lord, we thank you for this midpoint of our Lent journey, a moment to pause and breathe. On Mothering Sunday, we thank you for those who have nurtured, guided, and supported us—reflecting your own protective and sustaining love. May we find our strength renewed by Jesus, the one who gathers us like a hen gathers her brood, leading us with His steady hands toward the hope of Easter. Amen.

Prayers for the Middle East

Lord God, our hearts are broken by the violence we see in the Middle East. We pray for all the people who are living in fear of the next strike or searching for a safe place to hide. We ask for Your protection over them. Be near to those who have lost their homes, those who are grieving loved ones, and those who are waiting in hope for peace to return. Comfort the frightened and give strength to the aid workers and doctors who are trying to help.

We pray for the leaders of the nations. Give them a heart for peace instead of a desire for war. Quiet the noise of the bombs and the weapons, and open up a space where people can talk and find a new way forward.

Lord, You are the God of all people. May Your love and mercy be felt in every city and every home across the region. Help us not to lose hope, but to trust that Your peace is possible even now. Amen.

At our service last Sunday, the whole church was invited to pray for the conflict in the Middle East. Here are just some of the prayers written on the prayer board:

- Pray for Iran and Lebanon for quick resolution of the conflict
- Thank you Lord that you are in control and the future is in your hands
- Father we pray for leaders, decision makers and charities working across the region. I pray for wisdom, peace and a breakthrough of your spirit of love.
- Dear God, reveal your love to the world. Put peace in the hearts of world leaders
- Thank you God for holding us in your hand. I pray for leaders from the US and Israel to find you and stop the war in the Middle East. Give comfort to those who suffer because of it. Lord, please intervene.
- Dear God, please make peace between the middle east and USA
- We give thanks for the safe return of Elspeth and pray for safety for all in the middle east
- Pray for Adrian, Sehar, Rayamah and Abdullah in Dubai, for peace and God's comfort.
- For Peace and safety for Daisy working in Dubai