



Beulah Update: Weds 30th June

This week's theme: God on our side.

1. Worship resources.

- Our service on **Sunday 4th July will be at Beulah at 11 a.m. and will be led by Ruth Wollaston.** We hope as many as feel able will join us for this service, which will include communion. In the present circumstances, please bring your own items to use for communion such as a drink and a biscuit. We will continue to offer refreshments after the service outside the Church. Thanks to Ian for sorting this and for help in serving it out.
- The service on the 11th July will include either a video or spoken reflection.
- Looking ahead the service on the 18th July will be taken by Rev Graham Tarn.
- We are aware that several members of our fellowship aren't able to join us so we are exploring how we can cater for them and the first step has been taken in organising the instalment of Broadband.
- The usual online services and reflections continue for the moment and can be found on the home pages of the NWBA and the URC, and Sheila's weekly services from the Macedonia website: <https://macedonia-urc.org>
- Thanks to Dorothy for the weekly Vine.
- Sheila is continuing her weekly Bible Study discussion sessions on a Tues evening at 7-30 via Zoom. Log in details are as follows:

Meeting ID: 936 519 5146 Passcode: 1251

2. News from our fellowship and issues to pray for:

We are asking everyone to set aside 20 minutes on Saturday mornings from 10.00 until 10-20 and pray together for all the members of our congregation in their different situations. We know from recent examples that the phone calls help to check people are OK.

Pray for all those we know who are grieving after the recent deaths of loved ones, especially Julie and her family after the death of her Mum Mary. The funeral will be held on Fri 2nd July with a service at Haslingden Baptist Church and we will be praying for them and that service.

Pray for those with health issues, especially for Betty, who is now in a 24 hour care facility in Eire and for Phil and Lynn; for Bob B, who has a CT scan today at Tameside Hospital ; for Fred, who is now in hospital; for Millie; for Ian Wh and the results of his scans; for Wynne after her fall and further tests; for the family of Janet Morley (née Ashton!) – her son-in-law is waiting for a flight home from his posting in Afghanistan and the situation is described there as dangerous, and her son Scott has a recurrence of his cancer for the 3rd time; for Irene; for Peter; for Mavis Pr; for Vera in Butler Green; for Carol's sister-in-law who has kidney problems; for all those who are housebound for whatever reason.

Pray that the easing of restrictions will continue smoothly and will not result in a rise in hospitalizations, especially given the Indian variant.

Pray for Azeena as she looks for a job after finishing her degree and congratulations on passing all her degree modules – she is now waiting for her final result. Thanks to her for the great job she is doing cleaning the Church for us.

Pray for those with other anxieties- for Carol and her housing situation, especially now things are moving again .

Congratulations to Kate Olivier and Tom Stuart on their engagement. We wish them every happiness together.



We have sent our best wishes to Rev James Pate as he leaves Mills Hill Baptist Church to move to pastures new.

The URC have been publishing weekly prayers during the Pandemic. This is the latest prayer:

Loving God, We live in this waiting time, wondering what will happen next.

Asking, questioning, searching.

Will we return to the old normal?

What new things do you have in store for us?

Creator God, grant us hope in the midst of a confused and troubled world.

Redeemer God, pour out your gift of love, that our lives may bear fruit.

Sustainer God, free us from fear about what the future might hold and give us power to live whole-heartedly for others and all creation. Amen.

3.Message from the Leaders

This is taken from Anna's Prison Prayer letter and fits in perfectly with the theme this week.

"God Qualifies the called :

This is a phrase that I have heard far too many times and until recently had lost most of its meaning. Sometimes this phrase is used when one is anxious about something new, or when someone makes a mistake, or any other circumstance where encouragement is needed. However this statement is more than just a quick encouragement, it is based on Biblical truth.

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" Exodus 3:11

God literally spoke to Moses with a miraculous burning bush and Moses still questioned God's decision. Moses was so many things that we today would not approve of. A criminal record, abandoning his family, rejecting his history; all of these things would have disqualified him from so many things but God still chose him to save the children of Israel.

Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The Lord did not appear to you'?" Exodus 4:1

God encouraged Moses and told him it would be alright and Moses still had doubts. Yet God still used him. Being brave but blind to the magnitude of what God is asking of you is not what is required from us to be used by God. Understanding what God has called you too, acknowledging that it is scary and means a lot is important and necessary. God will still use you.

If you are worried or nervous about something I encourage you to pray and take that first step with God by your side."

4.Weekly Challenges- from Roots on the Web:

- Each morning, think about what lies ahead that day. Ask yourself: Will I be in any challenging situations? Am I prepared to meet them with courage? How can I feel more prepared to meet those challenges? Risk is part of life, we cannot avoid it altogether; but perhaps we can anticipate and prepare for its likely impact. Jesus promised to be with his disciples, and with us, by his Spirit. Ask God to give you a true sense of his presence, in order to be courageous and strong in any difficulties today