



TOGETHER4BRISTOL PRAYER UPDATE: EASTER 2020

Hi everyone

Happy Easter to you all! Praise God that when Jesus died and rose again he defeated death and showed himself to be Lord over all (Acts 2:36)! Here are a few examples of the Christian community **working together** across the Bristol region in the first part of 2020, with **Praise** for what has happened recently (especially in an amazing response to the COVID-19 pandemic) and **Prayer and action** for the next few weeks! Read the [Holy Week statement from British and Irish Church Leaders](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please pass these on to all your contacts to encourage them and for prayer!

PRAISE POINTS

We thank God for:

1. Tens of thousands of people praying together during the [National Day of Prayer](#) for the COVID-19 pandemic, including 160 on a call in Bristol, in response to the Presidents of Churches Together in England, including the Archbishop of Canterbury.
2. The Christian community's response in Bristol to COVID-19, showing a spirit of generosity and kindness, for example through hundreds of volunteers, including for emergency fostering, and supporting isolated and vulnerable people in the community. For action needed, see the Prayer and Action section of this bulletin.
3. Work at a city level to create a strategic, collaborative approach to responding to need at this time, including Feeding Bristol, FareShare, the network of Foodbanks and Bristol Noise, with Christians working closely with the Council and other agencies to secure food supplies to the vulnerable.
4. The Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter, which ran from January until the end of March 2020. Sixteen churches were involved, with about 500 volunteers from 50 churches. Funding has now been received for the whole project: [see here](#)
5. Provision for homeless people in hotels from the end of March, being fed three meals a day through a scheme being set up by Michelin Star chef Josh Eggleton, showing great generosity and kindness, despite having recently had to close his businesses!
6. The production and launch of an excellent Manifesto from the Faith community for the 2020 Mayoral election (now postponed until 2021).
7. The Keyboard 2020 networker, Carmen Carrol connecting across over 40 black-led churches in the region, including through a Bristol Pastors Forum, to help them be stronger together and to engage more with the rest of the Christian community, and to collaborate together on issues of racial justice. Contact keyboardnetworker@gmail.com
8. The approval of the Bristol Housing Festival's proposal to build 180 modular homes in Lockleaze. Also the ZEDpods scheme received the Insider Media 'Social Housing' award and Launchpad has been nominated for the RICS 'Social Impact in the South West' award.
9. Various recent conferences by the spheres, including from the Family sphere (Love Family-Bristol): Building Families as Factories of Hope, about vulnerable children, in January, at City Hall.
10. The [Burn 24/7](#) Bristol worship gatherings, which hosted the presence of God in Hartcliffe, resulting in two people getting baptised! To find out more contact Joseph Davies: jdavies@theburn247.com
11. The bi-monthly Healing Pool (Health Sphere): networking and prayer for Christians with an interest in

Healing of body, mind and spirit. healing.streams@outlook.com

PRAYER and ACTION POINTS

We pray for:

1. The Christian community's response to COVID-19, working with the council and other agencies across the Bristol region. Please pray for wisdom and for energy as plans are shaped. If you want to volunteer your time practically, see the [Noise website](#)
2. More people and couples to come forward to be considered for emergency fostering See [Home for Good Bristol Response](#)
3. Financial support to ensure there is a sustainable supply of food for the network of Foodbanks across the city. To purchase food to augment the supply of food from FareShare and others, to get food to where it is most urgently needed. Donate through the [Bristol Churches City Fund](#)
4. Clear communication across the Christian community of key needs and updates, through [the Noise](#) and [Christian Action Bristol](#) websites.
5. Churches [online services](#) to have a wide impact across the city during the COVID-19 crisis and for the Major Emergency Plan's and [Bristol Chaplaincy's listening service](#) to be a comfort to many.
6. Other ways for the Christian community to connect, such as through Zoom. This includes for the church leaders' prayer breakfast with the Mayor, on May 14th 7am to 8.30am. If you are a church leader, contact Silas Crawley: silasandannie@gmail.com
7. And for the Love Family Zoom prayer meeting on 21st April to pray for families, plus the use of online courses such as Begin Well, an antenatal course, starting on 23rd April, and Parenting for Faith, downloadable when needed. For more information, contact t4b.family@gmail.com
8. And for Bristol Healing Rooms' Wednesday afternoon prayer session from 12.30pm and two healing homes on Tuesday nights from 19.30pm and Saturday mornings from 10.30am. All meetings are now online with Zoom. Contact: bristolhealingrooms@gmail.com
9. And for Christians in Sport's online resources, quiz and webinars: See Pray, Stay, Play
10. And similarly, for Thy Kingdom Come, which is part of a global wave of prayer (initiated by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York), to pray that people would come to know the love of God. Pete Grieg of 24/7, will speak on the evening of 31 May.
11. The development of the One Church, One Day prayer initiative to cover the city in continual prayer. Pray for this to spread across many other churches during 2020. For more information contact the Crawleys: silasandannie@gmail.com
12. The completion of a new website which combines the old Bristol Networks and Together4Bristol websites. If you want to contribute to an appeal for some final work on Bristol Networks to help connect across the Christian community at this time, please find out how [here](#).

Please email us if you no longer wish to receive these prayer bulletins.

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