

Pray for everyone in Bloomfield who works in 3rd level education, that they might do everything wisely and that students might not only grow in knowledge but mature as adults as they cope with these unusual circumstances.

TUES 27 Pray especially for anyone waiting on other tests, surgery or treatment. Pray that their care will not be sidelined because of covid, and that wise decisions for the benefit of all will be taken by government and NHS managers and doctors. Pray also that anyone facing these difficult situations will be kept free from fear or anxiety.

WED 28 Pray for James and Heather Cochrane as they continue their work in Porto. Pray that they, their families and church family will all be kept safe and well, and that they will still be able to meet to worship God despite restrictions.

THURS 29 Continue to pray for our partner churches in Rwanda and Moldova. Pray that they will recover from the combined effects of coronavirus and lockdown, and that members will be kept

safe, able to earn a living and able to worship freely.

FRI 30 Pray for anyone who is struggling with mental health issues at the moment. Pray also for any health care professionals involved in this field, and pray that appropriate help will be sought and provided.

SAT 31 Continue to pray for research into and progress in relation to an effective, safe and ethical vaccine or for effective treatment to minimise the severity of coronavirus. Pray also for medication and assistance to help with any long term consequences of covid.

BLOOMFIELD PRAYER DIARY OCTOBER 2020

Ps 4 v 1 “Be merciful to me, and hear my prayer”.

THURS 1 Pray for all our students – especially those who are starting university or college for the first time, or leaving home to study. Pray that they will all be kept safe, and will grow in their faith and meet Christian friends as they enjoy their studies.

FR 2 Remember John and Heather in prayer as John has stepped down from being Clerk of Session. Give thanks for all their ministry and faithfulness in service over the years. Pray also for Andrew and Katie as Andrew has taken up the role of Clerk of Session. Pray for God’s wisdom and guidance for them both. Give thanks also for David and all his faithful service as he has stepped down as caretaker, and pray for Gordon as he takes over this role.

SAT 3 Give thanks for a lovely trip to Streamvale Farm for the Charis families, and for this opportunity to meet with all the Charis families again. Pray for the Charis families as they

organise more outdoor meetings.

SUN 4. Pray for Frank as he preaches this morning on “Peace”. Pray especially for the first of our evening Communion Services – led by Frank tonight, and for Philip Boyd who will preach.

MON 5 Ask God to grant His wisdom to our political, medical and scientific leaders at this time – both in Westminster and at Stormont. Pray that He would direct their thoughts and decisions, so that they will be the right decisions for all of society.

TUES 6 Remember in prayer East Belfast Presbytery as it meets in Knock Presbyterian. Pray especially for the new Presbytery Moderator – Rev Uel Marrs, and the new Presbytery Clerk – Rev Stephen Moore.

WED 7. Pray especially for the new Connect Groups which are scheduled to meet in the church. Pray for all the leaders, and pray that they will provide a really good time of fellowship, study and prayer.

THURS 8 Pray again for the other Connect Groups meeting in the church. Pray for all the leaders, the arrangements, and pray especially for renewed

fellowship as the groups meet. Pray particularly that the groups will help alleviate some of the isolation, loneliness or disconnectedness that many of us feel at this difficult time .

FRI 9 Pray for those who are experiencing loneliness and are missing the organisations and activities that they are not able to attend at this time.

SAT 10 Pray particularly for the work of Open Doors – that they may be a source of great strength and comfort to believers in the persecuted church. Pray that their work and witness will not be hindered in these difficult times.

SUN 11. Pray especially for our All- Age Family Service which will be a harvest thanksgiving service. Pray also for our evening communion service and for Bill who will conduct it.

MON 12 Pray for Philip Boyd who was licensed as a preacher of the gospel in unusual times last month, and who is now working alongside Rev Bobby Lyttle in Legacurry.

TUE 13 Pray for schools – for the staff and pupils, and for all Christian witness in schools, whether done formally or informally.

WED 14 Pray that the 6 new candidates training for ministry in PCI will settle well and grow in their faith as they study at Union Theological College.

THURS 15 Remember in prayer the work of PCI Councils which continue to function as best they can steering ministry at home and overseas. Pray especially for Frank as today he chairs the Council of Mission in Ireland.

FRI 16 Give thanks for the ongoing ministry of the Soup Club as they ensure that soup deliveries go out to their members. Pray that this valuable work will continue to encourage and support many people.

SAT 17 As there are new covid restrictions about visiting in homes, pray particularly for any members of our congregation who live alone. Pray also that we as a congregation will do our best to look out for people and to provide care and support at this time, whether emotionally, practically or prayerfully.

SUN 18 Pray especially for Michael as he preaches this morning on “Patience”. Remember in prayer our evening communion service, and also Drew who will conduct it. Pray also for Frank as he preaches in Hamilton Road’s United Appeal evening service.

MON 19 Pray for Helen Lyttle and her ongoing work with OMF. Pray that she will be able to visit in person where possible, and that whether meeting in person or talking via Zoom, her presence and advice will be a real blessing and support to the OMF missionary families. Pray that the recent OMF field conference via Zoom will have been an encouragement and blessing to the OMF missionaries and children.

TUE 20 Pray especially for our Kirk Session as they will be meeting this evening to give consideration to “Opening up to God “ – leading out of lockdown. Ask God to grant each member His wisdom in these difficult times.

WED 21 Continue to pray for our new Connect Groups as they meet over the next few days to study about the Fruit of the Spirit. Pray that our sermon series and our Connect studies will help develop more of these fruit in each of our lives.

THURS 22 Pray especially for those who are anxious about their businesses or their employment. Pray particularly for any who are facing the prospect of unemployment as the furlough scheme ends and for those who have already been made unemployed. Pray

for hope and a future, and that God will provide new opportunities that may be even better than before.

FRI 23 Pray especially for our Ministry Team – for Frank with an increased workload, for Michael and for all he does with our young people, and for Elizabeth who is unable to visit homes and with all the phone calls she so faithfully makes. Pray also for Sam as he undertakes his further studies.

SAT 24 Pray for Charis parents who are anxious as their children and young people go back to school and day centres. Pray that everyone will keep well and will enjoy and benefit from the social interaction.

SUN 25 Remember Sam in prayer as he preaches this morning on “Kindness”. Pray for our evening communion service, and for Frank who will lead it and Peter Huey who will speak.

MON 26 This will be a trying semester for Union College, with new regulations in place and much teaching probably being done electronically.