

# Brooklands Church Update

Sunday 20 February 2022

**We are lifting our eyes beyond ourselves this week and our Update introduction comes from Sylvia Cortez, wife of a Ukrainian District Superintendent. Here she sheds some light on the tensions from her own perspective. Let's remember them in prayer.**

These are truly strange days. Despite the hyped-up news in the west, people in Kyiv (Kiev) still carry on as usual. The stores are well-stocked, and there is no rioting or looting. We have witnessed no panicking. Part of the reason for this is that the war with Russia has been ongoing for 8 years and the threats / bullying is a normal part of Ukraine-Russia relations. Some people are in denial about the situation, but most just refuse to be paralyzed by fear. They have lived through so much political struggle in their lifetime, they will just deal with it as they have in the past. The west might show concern and hit Russia with sanctions, but there is a real sense that we're really on our own over here.

I am now receiving daily messages from the US Embassy (3 today alone) recommending that all Americans leave immediately for fear of a Russian invasion at any moment. Rumours are that Russia will attack Kyiv, the capital city, with missile strikes. We live 1.5 miles from the city centre, so you can pray this never happens.

While nothing has happened yet, Ukraine's economy is already getting hit. The dollar is rising daily. Investors are leaving. So even if nothing happens, the propaganda has worked to weaken Ukraine. Undoubtedly, psychological warfare has long been at play and it's working both here and abroad. The church has really been affected by this since 2013. Because of the ongoing political tension and war in the east, Ukraine has received few volunteers, and it's been years since we've seen a Work & Witness team (though we did have a virtual team with the Netherlands district last fall).

Almost all of our American friends have left. We know very few Ukrainians who have left or travelled abroad, and fewer who would be able to even if they wanted. Ukrainians are beautiful, proud people who love their land and will do anything to protect it. So, we all wait together. Hoping for the best and preparing for the worst.

- \* Please pray for peace. No one in Ukraine wants war. And casualties on both sides would be devastating.
- \* Please pray that we will be able to see the needs as they arise in case of an attack, and the means and people to respond.
- \* Please pray for protection in case of a violent attack.
- \* Please pray that people remain calm, in prayer, and together.

GOING  
DEEPER



PRAYER  
WORSHIP  
FAITH

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# Church Calendar

## This week

Date	Event
Sunday 20 February 2022	Sunday Worship, 10:30 am. Pastor Mick is our speaker
Wednesday 23 February 2022	No Toddle-In this week during half-term
Wednesday 23 February 2022	<a href="#">Church Zoom Prayer Meeting</a> , 10:30 am
Wednesday 23 February 2022	FoodCycle free community meal at church at 5:00 pm
Thursday 24 February 2022	Community Café, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Thursday 24 February 2022	Bible Study, 2:00 pm at church led by Lucy
Sunday 27 February 2022	Sunday Worship, 10:30 am. Pastor Mick will be our speaker

## Coming up

Date	Event
11-12 March 2022	British Isles South District Assembly, Dukinfield
Friday 6 May 2022	NTC Graduation

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and  
when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep  
over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be  
burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

ISAIAH 43:1-2

# Church Prayer and Daily Reading Diary

## Monday 21 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 36:19–43

Pray for: Matthew, Charlotte and Joshua Purves

## Tuesday 22 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 37:1–11

Pray for: Adriana, Philip, Rebecca, David, Joseph and Pete Richmond

## Wednesday 23 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 37:12–36

Pray for: Mark, Rebecca, Charlie and Laney Rotheram

## Thursday 24 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 38:1–12

Pray for: Nick, Ada and Joshua Savu and family

## Friday 25 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 38:13–30

Pray for: Dean, Simona and Mia Stanfield

## Saturday 26 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 39

Pray for: Karl and Ingrid Stanfield and family

## Sunday 27 February 2022

Bible reading: Genesis 40

Pray for: Terry and Sheila Strong and family

# British Isles South District Assembly

A reminder that the church is holding its District Assembly on Friday 11 March and Saturday 12 March 2022, at St. John's Church in Dukinfield. This is the equivalent of our church Annual General Meeting, but it is for most of the Nazarene churches in England and Wales. Churches will be sending delegates to attend the event.

If you could offer accommodation to delegates for one night—Friday 11 March—please let Pastor Mick or Mark Bolton know, and whether this would be for a single person or a married couple.

## Church Prayers

- ✚ Pray for Babs and Pete Hewitt following the death of Babs' son Dave. He was only 51. We pray for peace for the family and wisdom for Pete as he prepares to lead the funeral when arranged.
- ✚ Pray for the Strong Family as Terry's mother died on Monday morning. The funeral took place on Friday in South Africa.
- ✚ Pray for Connor Duerdon, and for Cole and Carter, aged 6 and 3. Connor's partner and fiancé Charlotte Hibbert passed away unexpectedly on Thursday of this past week, at their home here on Brooklands estate. She was only 25. Pray for the Hibbert and Duerdon families as they come to terms with the loss of Charlotte. Connor is also the nephew of Jean Walker.
- ✚ We give thanks for the safe delivery of Connie Grace to Lisa last week. We rejoice with the family in these special early days.
- ✚ Pray for Pastor Mick's family. Mick's dad, also Mick, has received a prognosis of 6 months to a year. Also, Mick's step-dad, Jim was diagnosed with lung cancer and is undergoing tests investigating the spread of the cancer. The outlook for Jim is also not good.
- ✚ Pray for Pastor Lucy as she continues with the process for her District Minister's Licence.
- ✚ Pray for Siggy who injured her arm whilst in America. We give thanks she is home and pray for a full recovery.
- ✚ Continue to pray for John and Anne Beattie as John's palliative care for cancer continues.
- ✚ Pray for others who continue to need healing and comfort in these days: Isobel Cave, Jon Fisher, Viv Best, Nathaniel Herbert and others.
- ✚ Pray for David and Chris Hoolihan's son Philip, in Vietnam, and for his wife, Hua also.
- ✚ We pray for healing for Marie Vickers, family to David and Chris though marriage.
- ✚ Pray for the continued work of the Church here in the community of Brooklands, Wythenshawe as new faces continue to engage with us in a number of ways.

# Sunday 20 February 2022

Pastor Mick Kane

Deeper 5

Hebrews 6:13-20

<sup>13</sup> When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, <sup>14</sup> saying, “I will surely bless you and give you many descendants.” <sup>15</sup> And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.

<sup>16</sup> People swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. <sup>17</sup> Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. <sup>18</sup> God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. <sup>19</sup> We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.